

POLICE

10¢

COMICS

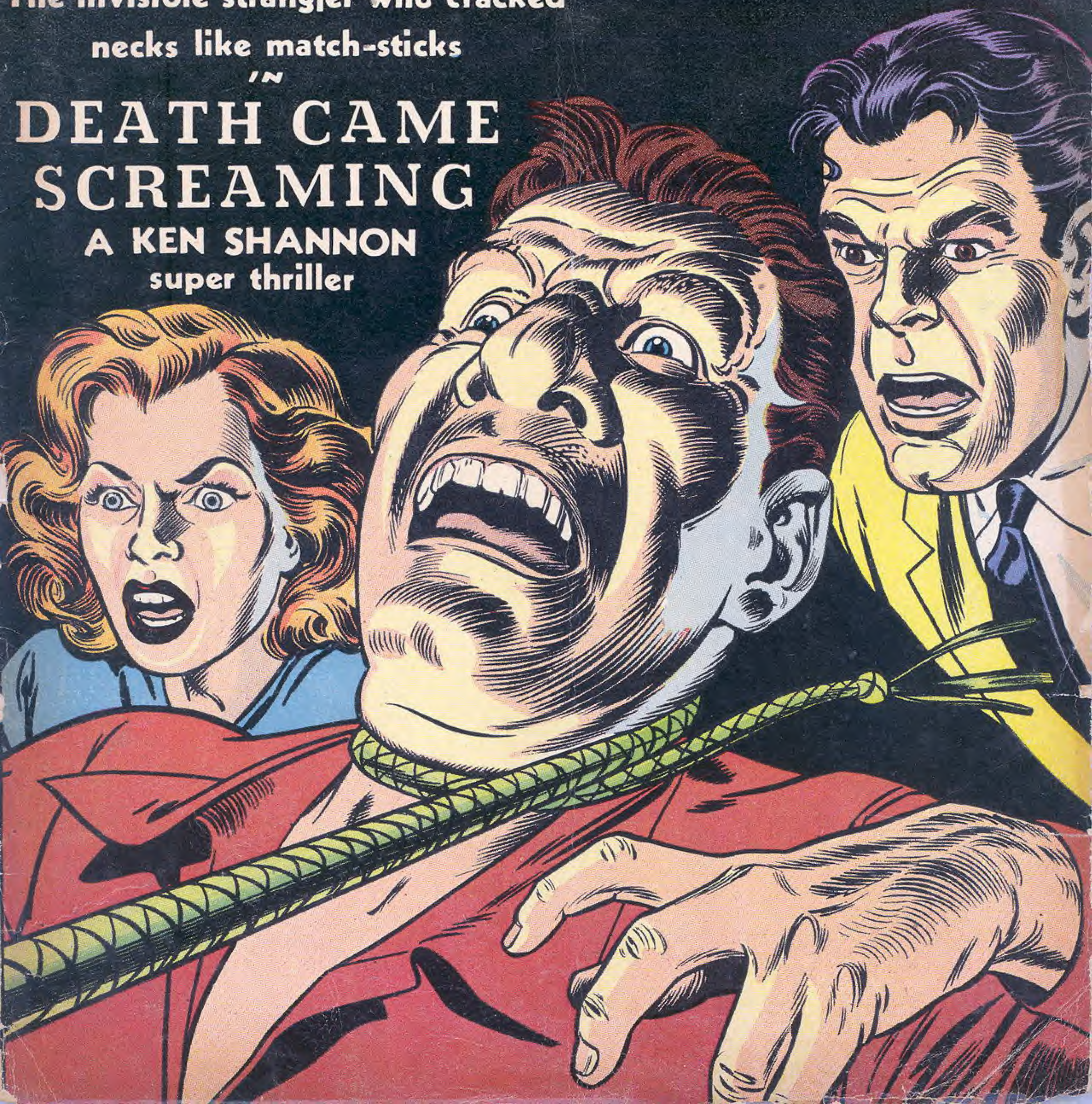
JANUARY No. 123

The invisible strangler who cracked
necks like match-sticks

IN

DEATH CAME SCREAMING

A KEN SHANNON
super thriller





WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM



I WILL TRAIN YOU AT HOME FOR GOOD PAY JOBS IN RADIO-TELEVISION

J. E. SMITH has trained more men for
Radio-Television than any other man.

America's Fast Growing Industry Offers You

2 FREE BOOKS
SHOW HOW
MAIL COUPON

I TRAINED THESE MEN

LOST JOB, NOW HAS OWN SHOP
"Got laid off my machine shop job which I believe was best thing ever happened as I opened a full time Radio Shop. Business is picking up every week."—E. T. Slate, Corsicana, Texas.

GOOD JOB WITH STATION
"I am Broadcast Engineer at WLPN. Another technician and I have opened a Radio-TV service shop in our spare time. Big TV sales here . . . more work than we can handle."—J. H. Bangle, Suffolk, Va.

\$10 TO \$15 WEEK SPARE TIME
"Four months after enrolling for NRI course, was able to service Radios . . . averaged \$10 to \$15 a week spare time. Now have full time Radio and Television business."—William Weyde, Brooklyn, New York.

SWITCHED TO TV SERVICING
"I recently switched over from studio work and am now holding a position as service technician. I am still with RCA, enjoying my work more and more every day."—N. Ward, Ridgefield, N. J.

WANT YOUR OWN BUSINESS?

Let me show you how you can be your own boss. Many NRI trained men start their own business with capital earned in spare time. Robert Dohmen, New Prague, Minn., whose store is shown at left, says, "Am now tied in with two Television outfits and do warranty work for dealers. Often fall back to NRI textbooks for information."

ROBERT DOHMEN RADIO SERVICE

1. EXTRA MONEY IN SPARE TIME

Many students make \$5, \$10 a week and more EXTRA fixing neighbors' Radios in spare time while learning. The day you enroll I start sending you SPECIAL BOOKLETS that show you how. Tester you build with kits I send helps you make extra money servicing sets, gives practical experience on circuits common to Radio and Television. All equipment is yours to keep.

2. GOOD PAY JOB

NRI Courses lead to these and many other jobs: Radio and TV service, P.A., Auto Radio, Lab, Factory, and Electronic Controls Technicians, Radio and TV Broadcasting, Police, Ship and Airways Operators and Technicians. Opportunities are increasing. The United States has over 105 million Radios—over 2,900 Broadcasting Stations—more expansion is on the way.

3. BRIGHT FUTURE

Think of the opportunities in Television. Over 15,000,000 TV sets are now in use; 108 TV stations are operating and 1800 new TV stations have been authorized . . . many of them expected to be in operation in 1953. This means more jobs—good pay jobs with bright futures. More operators, installation service technicians will be needed. Now is the time to get ready for a successful future in TV! Find out what Radio and TV offer you.

You Learn Servicing or Communications by Practicing With Kits I Send

Keep your job while training at home. Hundreds I've trained are successful RADIO-TELEVISION Technicians. Most had no previous experience; many no more than grammar school education. Learn Radio-Television principles from illustrated lessons. You also get PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE. Pictured at left, are just a few of the pieces of equipment you build with kits I send. You experiment with, learn circuits common to Radio and Television.

Mail Coupon—find out what RADIO-TELEVISION Can Do for You

Act Now! Send for my FREE DOUBLE OFFER. Coupon entitles you to actual Servicing Lesson; shows how you learn at home. You'll also receive my 64-page book, "How to Be a Success in Radio-Television." Send coupon in envelope or paste on postal. J. E. SMITH, Pres., Dept. 3AK National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C. Our 39th Year.

Good for Both—FREE

Mr. J. E. Smith, President, Dept. 3AK
National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.
Mail me Sample Lesson and 64-page Book, "How to Be a Success in Radio-Television." Both FREE. (No salesman will call. Please write plainly.)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Approved under G.I. Bill

Television Is Today's Good Job Maker

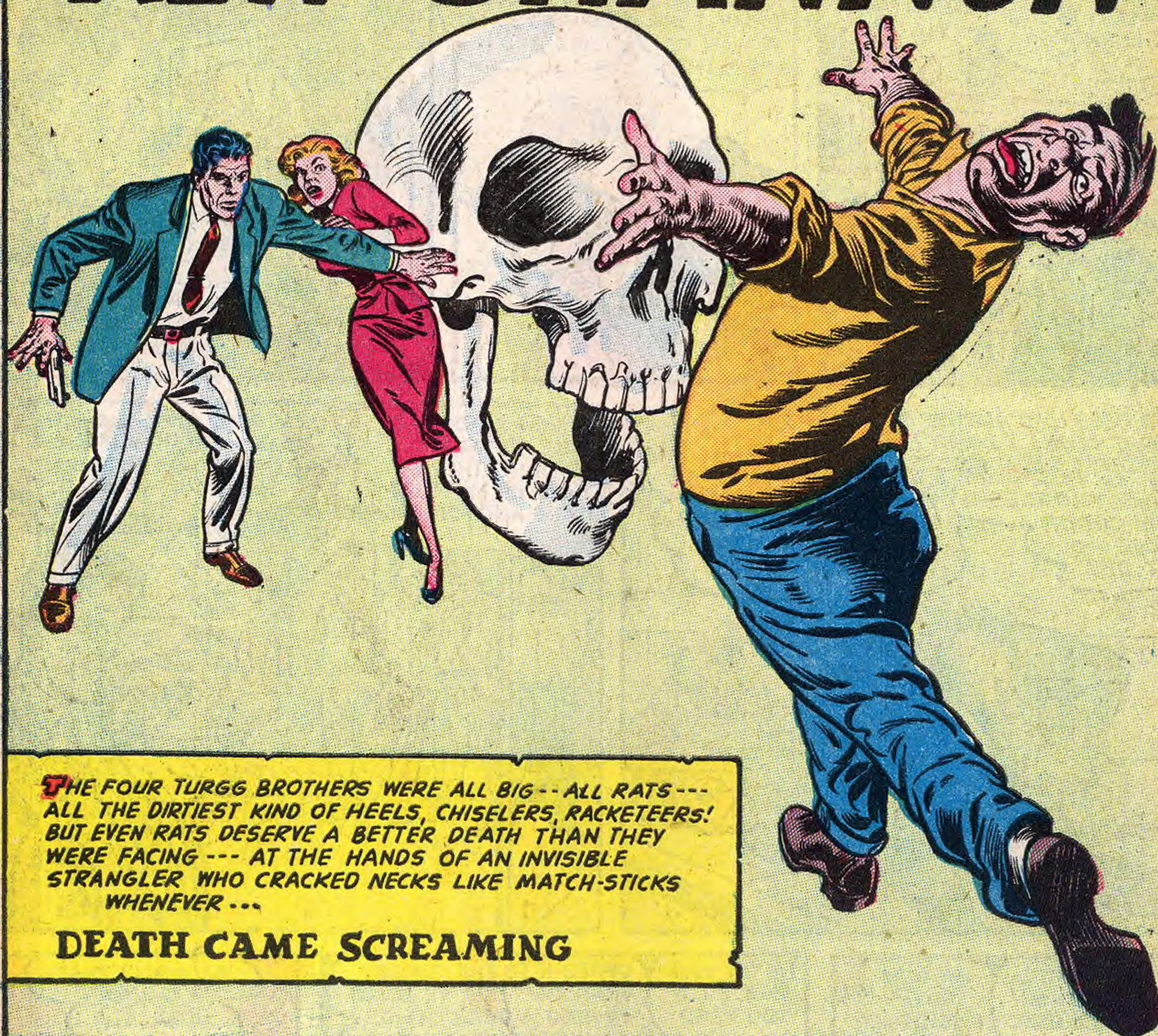
TV now reaches from coast-to-coast. Qualify for a good job as a service technician or operator. My course includes many lessons on TV. You get practical experience . . . work on circuits common to both Radio and Television with my kits. Now is the time to get ready for success in Television!

This Is Just Some of
the Equipment My
Students Build. All
Parts Yours to Keep.

The ABC's of
SERVICING

How to Be a
Success
in RADIO-
TELEVISION

KEN SHANNON



THE FOUR TURGG BROTHERS WERE ALL BIG -- ALL RATS --- ALL THE DIRTIEST KIND OF HEELS, CHISELERS, RACKETEERS! BUT EVEN RATS DESERVE A BETTER DEATH THAN THEY WERE FACING --- AT THE HANDS OF AN INVISIBLE STRANGLER WHO CRACKED NECKS LIKE MATCH-STICKS WHENEVER ...

DEATH CAME SCREAMING



**BEN
TURGG**

Oldest,
toughest,
nastiest
...and scardest
of the Turgg
brothers!

**ED
HESS**



Had
plenty of
reason to dance
at a Turgg
funeral!

**HAZEL
TORCH**



Had
a song on
her lips and
murder in
her heart!

SUDSY



Had
been a
man once,
but the
Turggs had
turned him
into a
cringing
slave!

POLICE COMICS

I'M A MOODY GUY WHOSE SPIRITS RISE AND FALL WITH HIS BANKROLL! TODAY I HAD JUST COLLECTED A FAT FEE!



OH-H-H, THE BIRDIES THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING!

FLOWERS, YOU DOPE! BIRDS DON'T BLOOM!

AS MY LUSCIOUS SECRETARY, MISS DAWSON, I BOW TO YOUR JUDGEMENT! BUT TODAY EVEN BIRDS COULD BLOOM! TODAY I AM A MAN OF WEALTH!



SWELL! SO TONIGHT, KEN SHANNON, YOU CAN TAKE ME TO THE CLUB CARE-FREE! I HELPED SOLVE THAT CASE AND ..

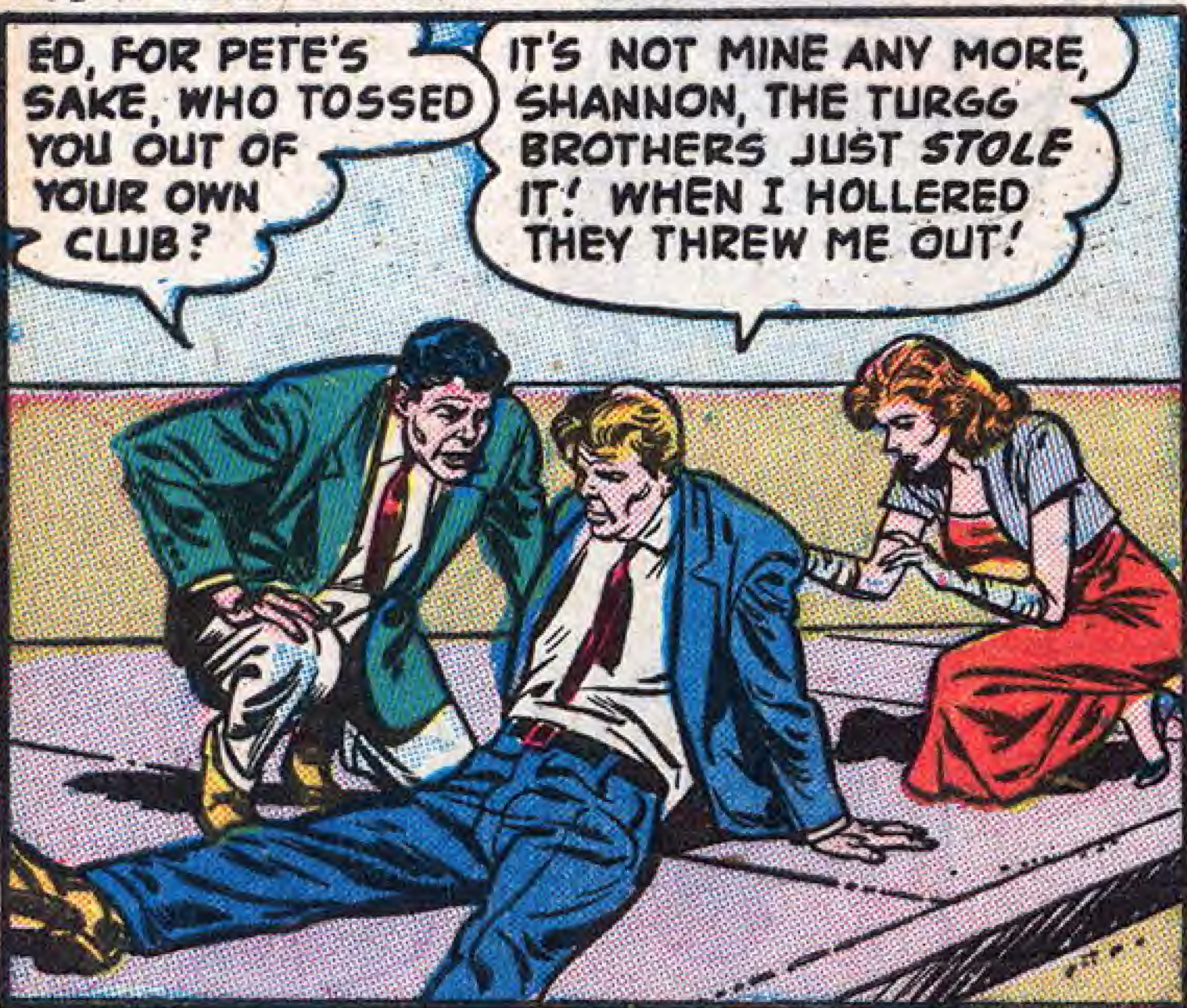
SUDDENLY --

... AND STAY OUT YOU TRAMP!

YIKE! ED HESS...!



ED HESS HAD ALWAYS RUN A DECENT NIGHT CLUB! I LIKED THE GUY!

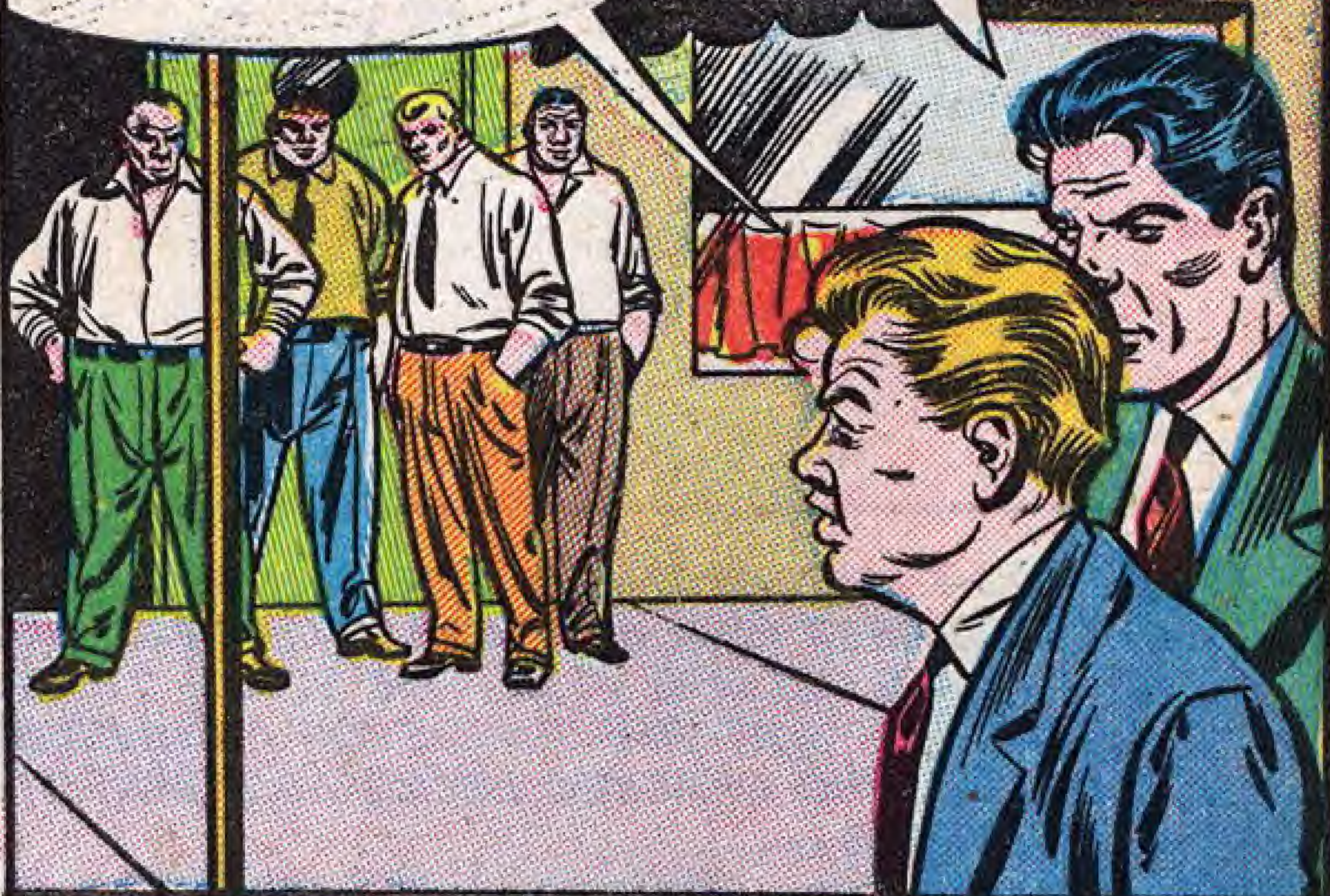


ED, FOR PETE'S SAKE, WHO TOSSED YOU OUT OF YOUR OWN CLUB?

IT'S NOT MINE ANY MORE, SHANNON, THE TURGG BROTHERS JUST STOLE IT! WHEN I HOLLERED THEY THREW ME OUT!

WHEN I REFUSED TO SELL TO THEM FOR PEANUTS, THEY GOT HOLD OF MY MORTGAGE AND FORECLOSED!

JUST FOUR LOVABLE CHARACTERS, ED! NATURE MADE THEM, TOOK ONE LOOK AND DROPPED DEAD!



YOU'RE A CUTE BOY, SHANNON! YOU TALK REAL GOOD WHILE YOU'VE STILL GOT TEETH!

AW, NOW YOU'VE FRIGHTENED ME, BEN! HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO MAKE FRIENDS IF YOU ACT THAT WAY?



I'M ON YOUR SIDE, ED, IF YOU NEED MY KIND OF HELP!

OFFER IT TO THE TURGGs, SHANNON! THEY'RE GOING TO NEED A DETECTIVE OR AN UNDERTAKER BEFORE I'M THROUGH WITH THEM!

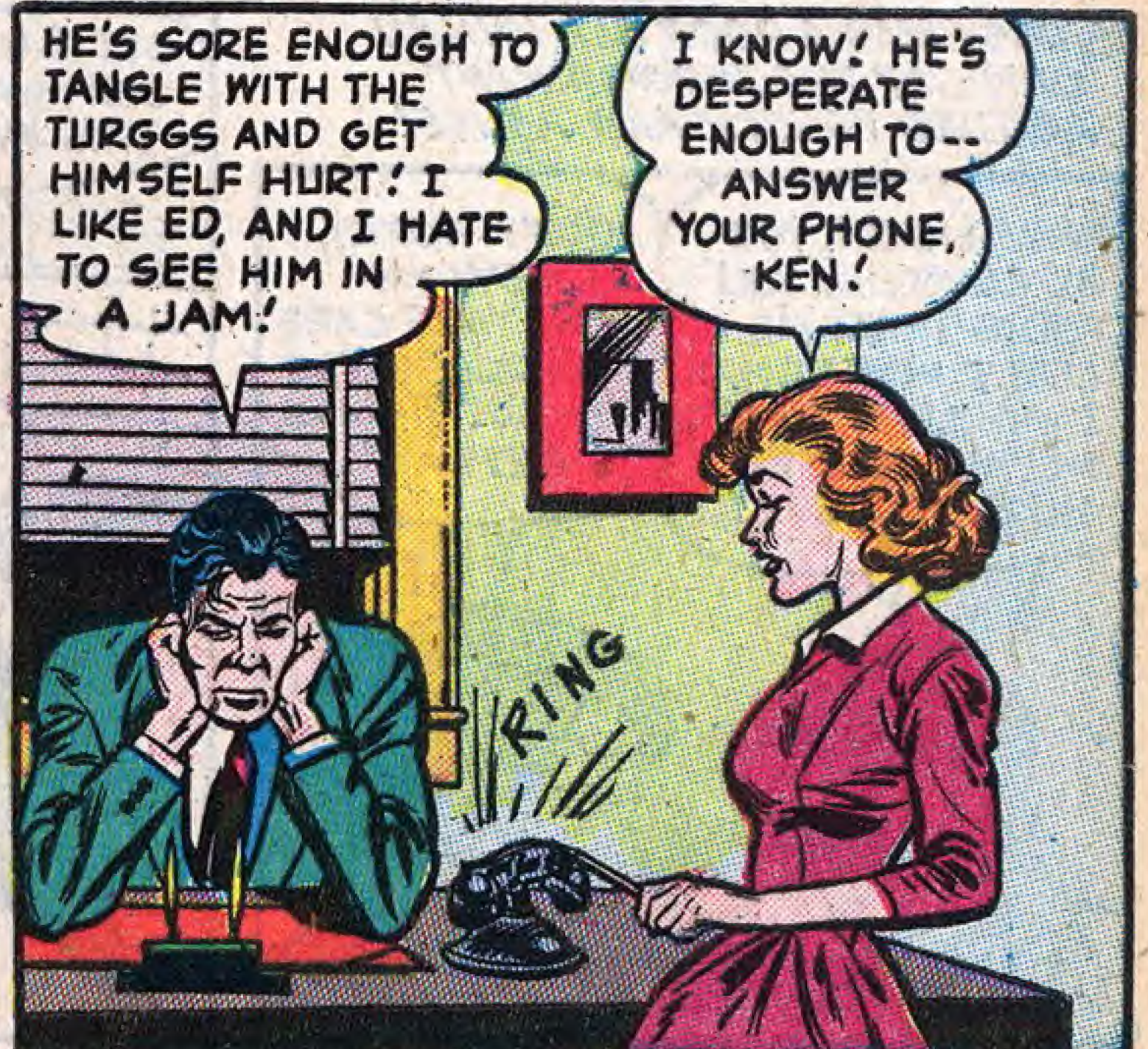
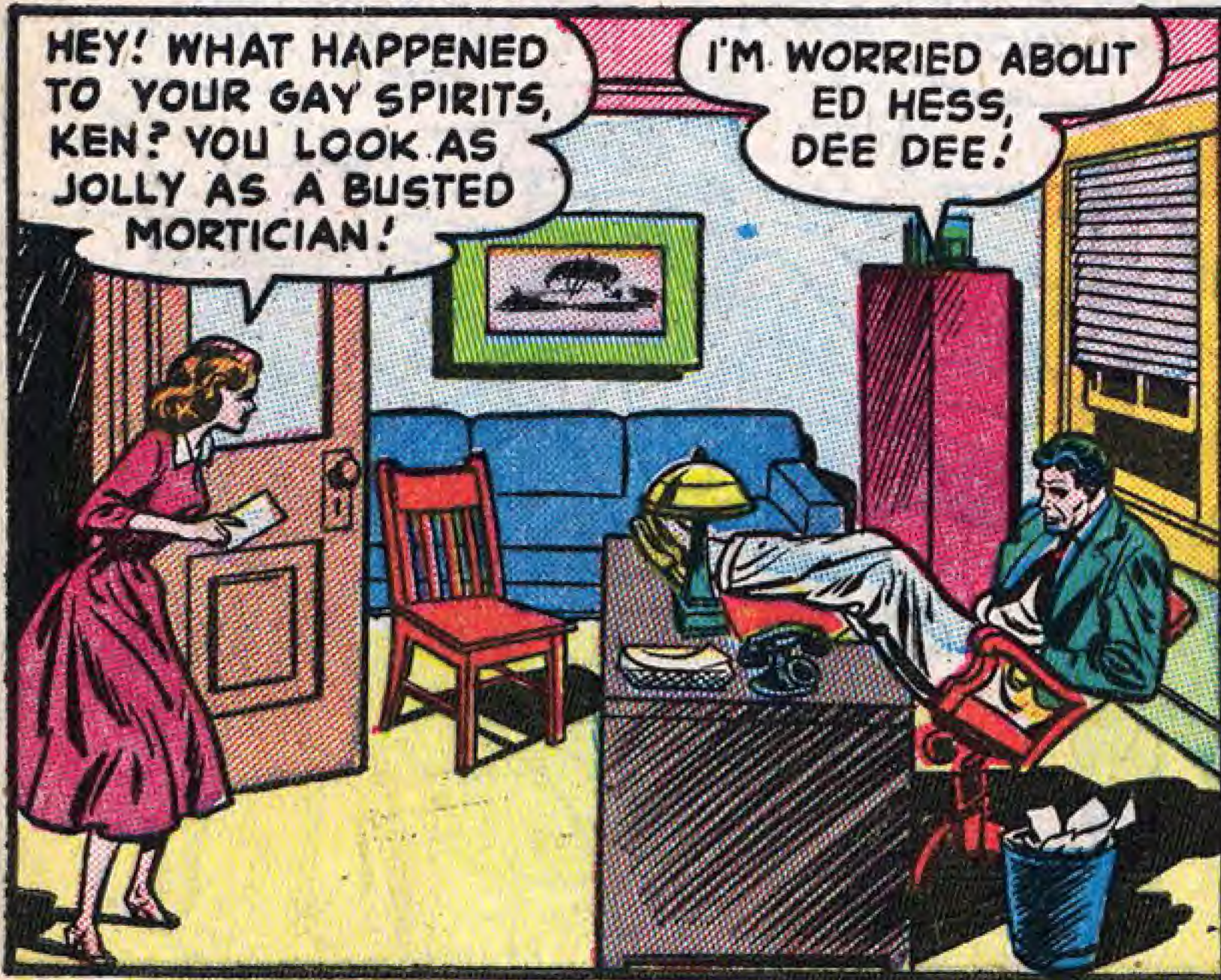


YOU KNOW, THAT'S A GOOD IDEA...!

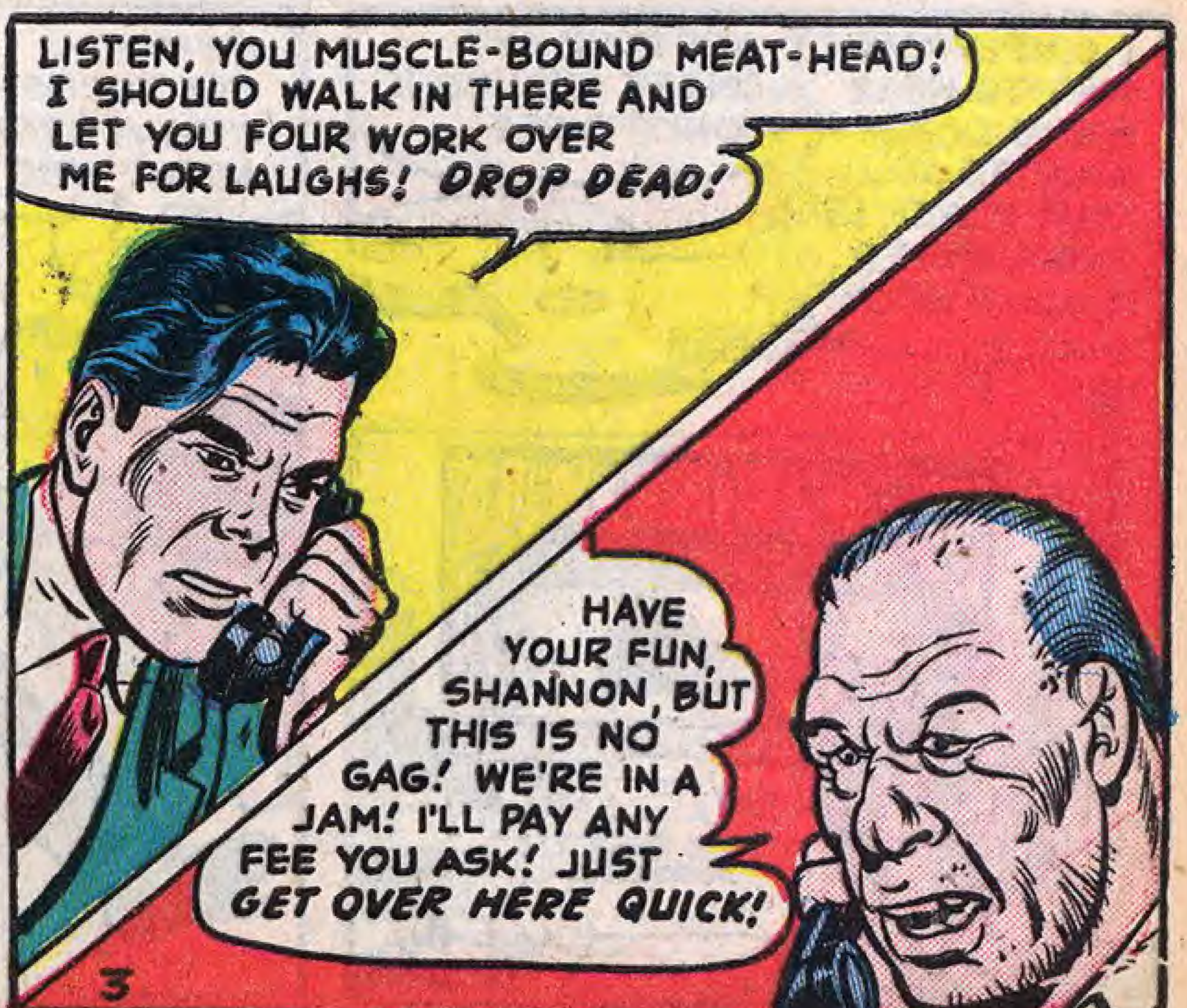




WE LAUGHED IT UP, BUT GOOD-- THEN A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER --



I LIFTED THE RECEIVER AND ALMOST SWALLOWED A TONSIL!



POLICE COMICS

I SLAMMED UP THE TELEPHONE AND GOT READY FOR ACTION!



KEN SHANNON, YOU WOULDN'T BE SO STUPID! THEY JUST WANT TO GET YOU ALONE IN THAT EMPTY CLUB!

NO, DEE DEE! BEN TURGG WAS SCARED -- AND WHEN ANYTHING CAN SCARE THAT MONSTER, I WANT TO SEE IT!

THEN I'M GOING, TOO! OH, KEN, YOU WOULDN'T WORK FOR THOSE .. THOSE MONSTERS, WOULD YOU?



YEP! IF SOMEBODY'S ACTUALLY GIVING THEM THE WORKS, I WANT TO BE ON THE INSIDE WHERE I CAN WATCH IT-- AND GET PAID, TOO!



COME IN, MR. SHANNON AND MISS DAWSON! THEY'RE WAITIN' FOR YOU INSIDE!

THANKS, SUDSY! HOW HAVE YOU BEEN? FEELING BETTER?



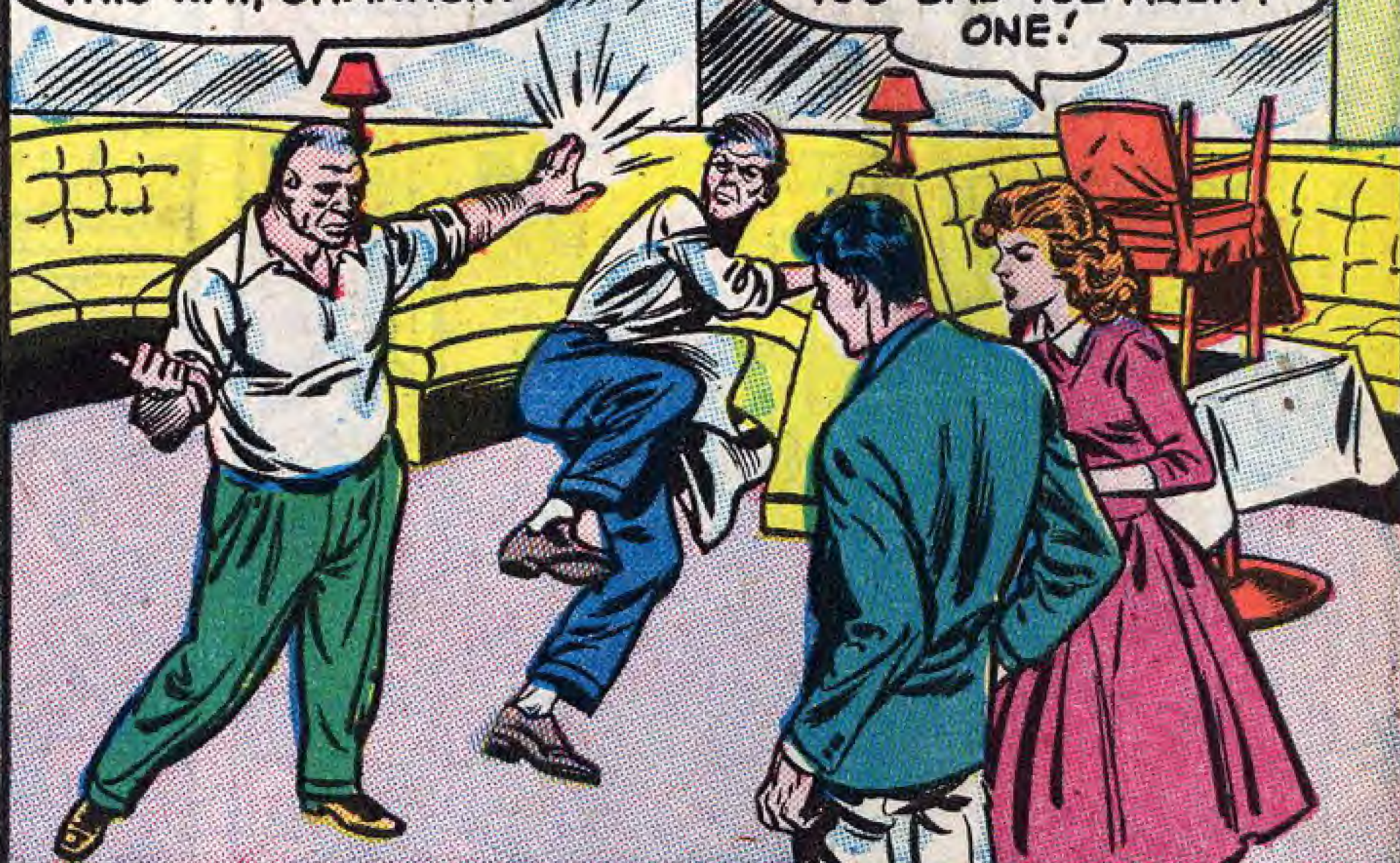
SUDSY WAS A POOR OLD HUMAN DERELICT THE TURGGs KEPT AROUND TO KICK AND ABUSE!



FAIR! LISTEN, YOU BE CAREFUL! YOU FOLKS TREAT ME LIKE I WAS HUMAN! I WOULDN'T WANT NOTHIN' TO EVER HURT YOU, SEE!

DON'T WORRY, SUDSY! WE CAN TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES -- BUT THANKS, ANYWAY!

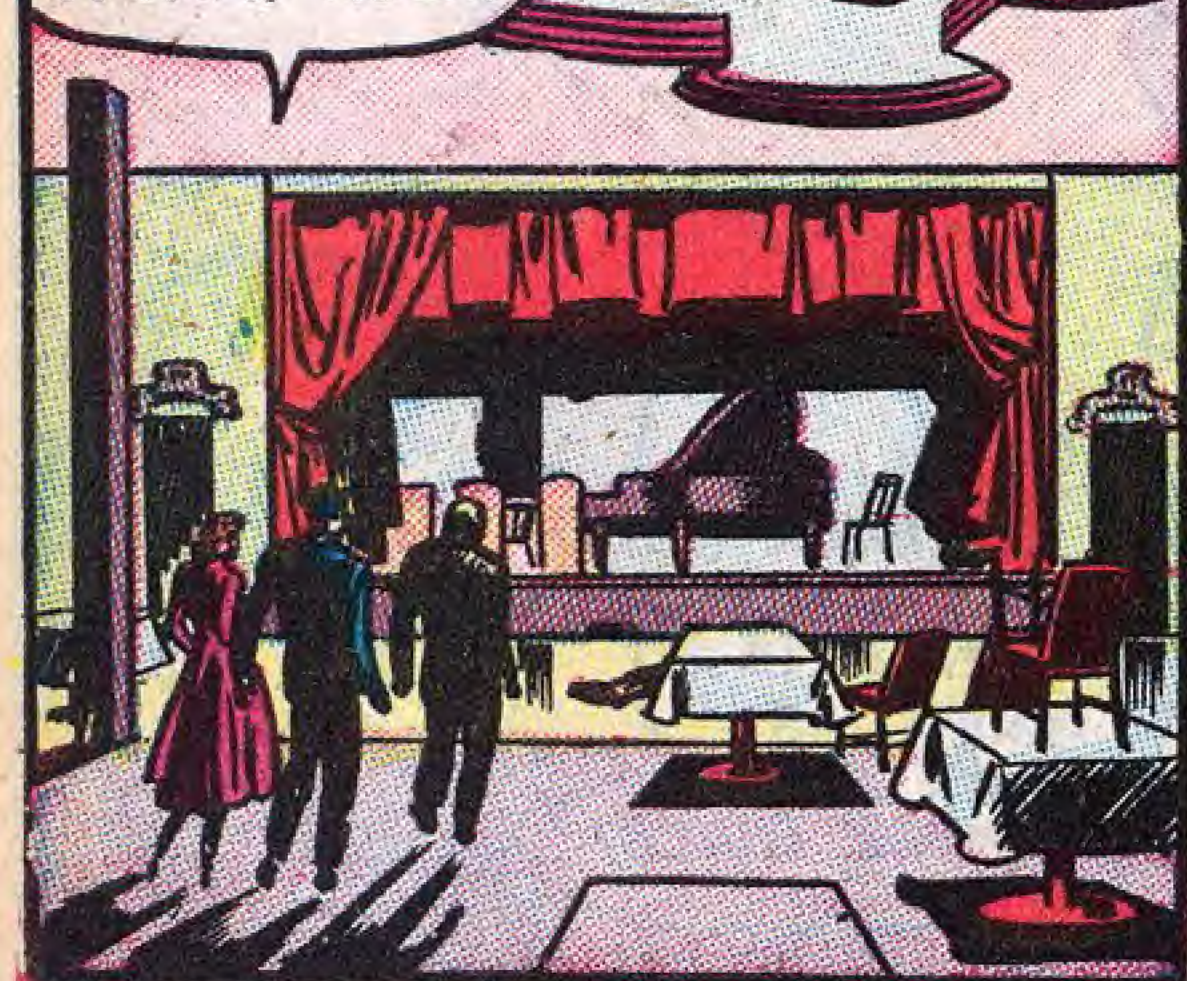
GET BACK TO YOUR DISH-WASHING, MOUTHY! THIS WAY, SHANNON!



OOO, I JUST ADORE BIG, BRAVE, STRONG MEN! TOO BAD YOU AREN'T ONE!

I SIMPLY CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR WHO'S DOING WHAT TO YOU FOUR FUGITIVES FROM UNDER A DAMP ROCK!

NOT FOUR ANY LONGER, SHANNON! ONLY THREE ...



AWWRK! BAT TURGG-- WITH A BROKEN NECK! WHO DID IT, BEN?



THAT'S WHAT I'M HIRIN' YOU TO FIND OUT!

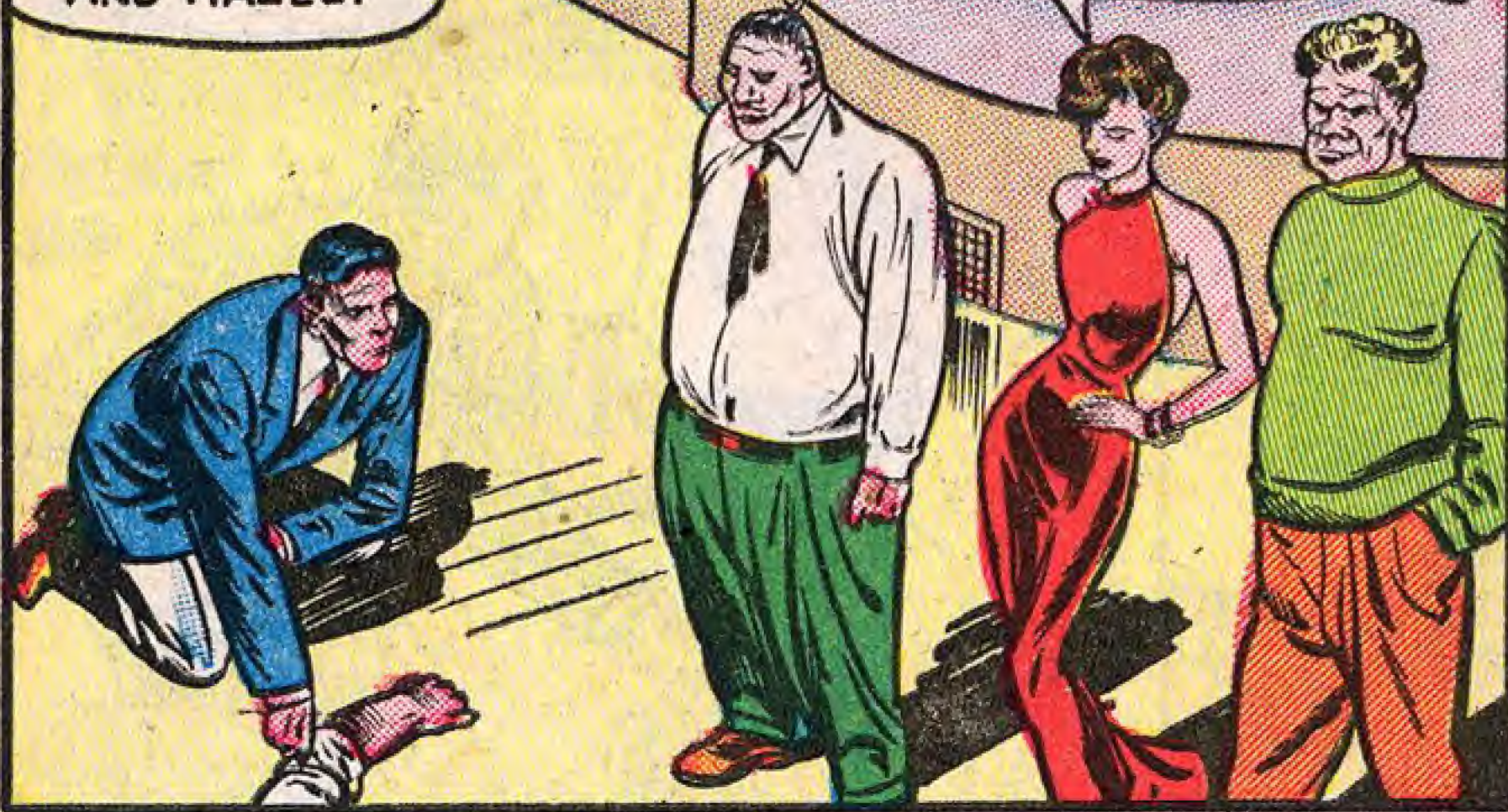
AND BEFORE IT HAPPENS TO THE REST OF US!



FOR A MOMENT I SAW NAKED FEAR IN BEN TURGG'S EYES -- AND I ENJOYED IT!

WE HUNTED EVERYWHERE, BEN! THERE WAS NOBODY ELSE HERE EXCEPT SUDSY AND HAZEL!

PIN IT ON ME, SHAMUS! I SLAPPED HIS STUPID FACE AND HIS TENDER LITTLE NECK JUST WENT CRR-R-RACK!



HA-HA-HA!

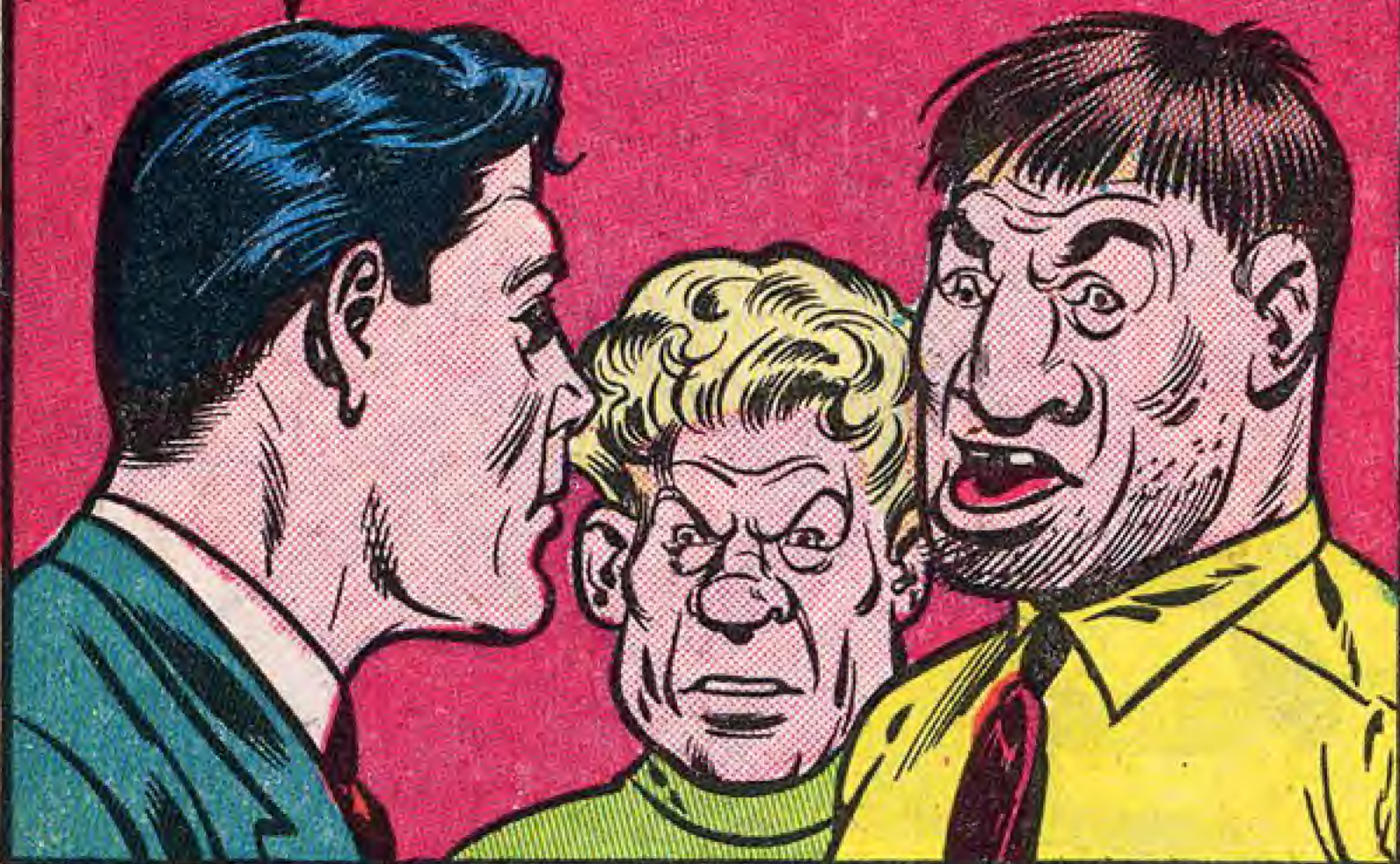
WHY DO I PUT UP WITH THAT DAME? SHE HATES THE SIGHT OF US!

WHO DOESN'T! BUT SHE NEVER HAD THE STRENGTH TO DO THIS JOB!



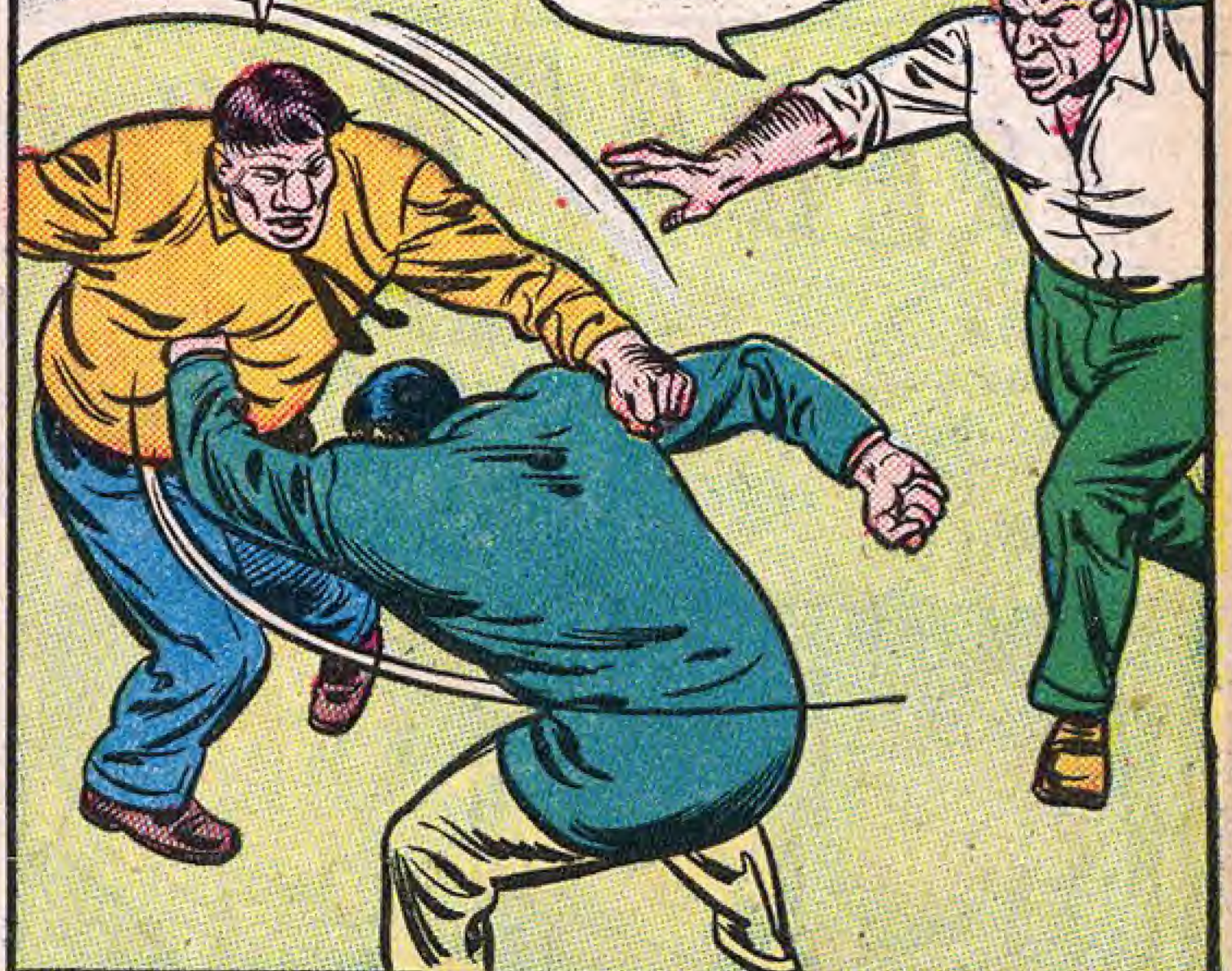
IN FACT, I DON'T SEE WHO COULD -- EXCEPT ONE OF YOU! DIDN'T SIM AND BAT SCRAP A LOT?

WHY, YOU ...! ACCUSE ME O' KILLIN' MY BRUDDER, WILL YOUSE?



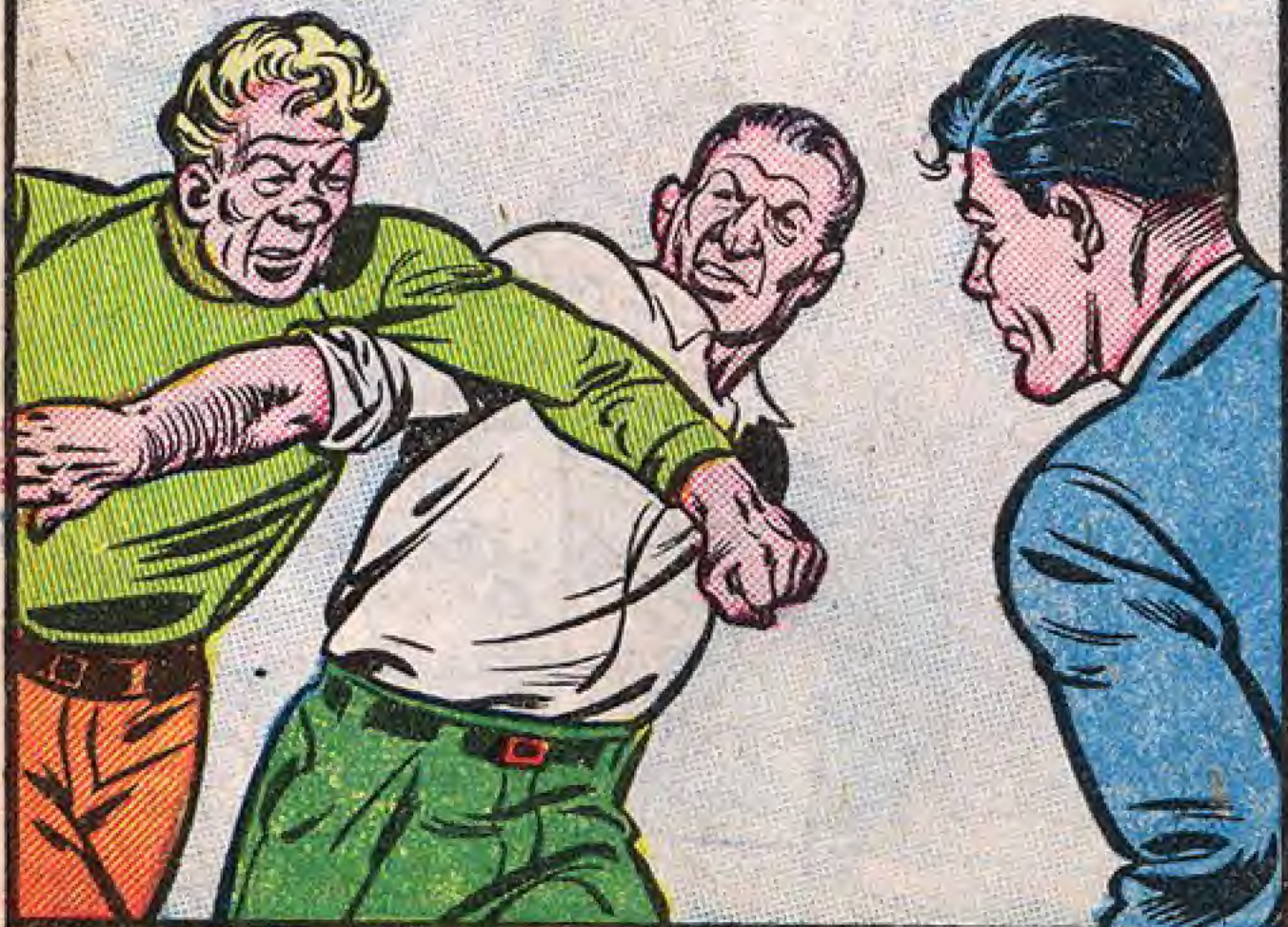
I'LL ... OOOFFF!

CUT IT OUT! CUT IT OUT!



HE HIT SIM! I'LL KILL THAT MONKEY!

YOU'LL SHADDUP AND BEHAVE! WE GOTTA HAVE SHANNON ON OUR SIDE!



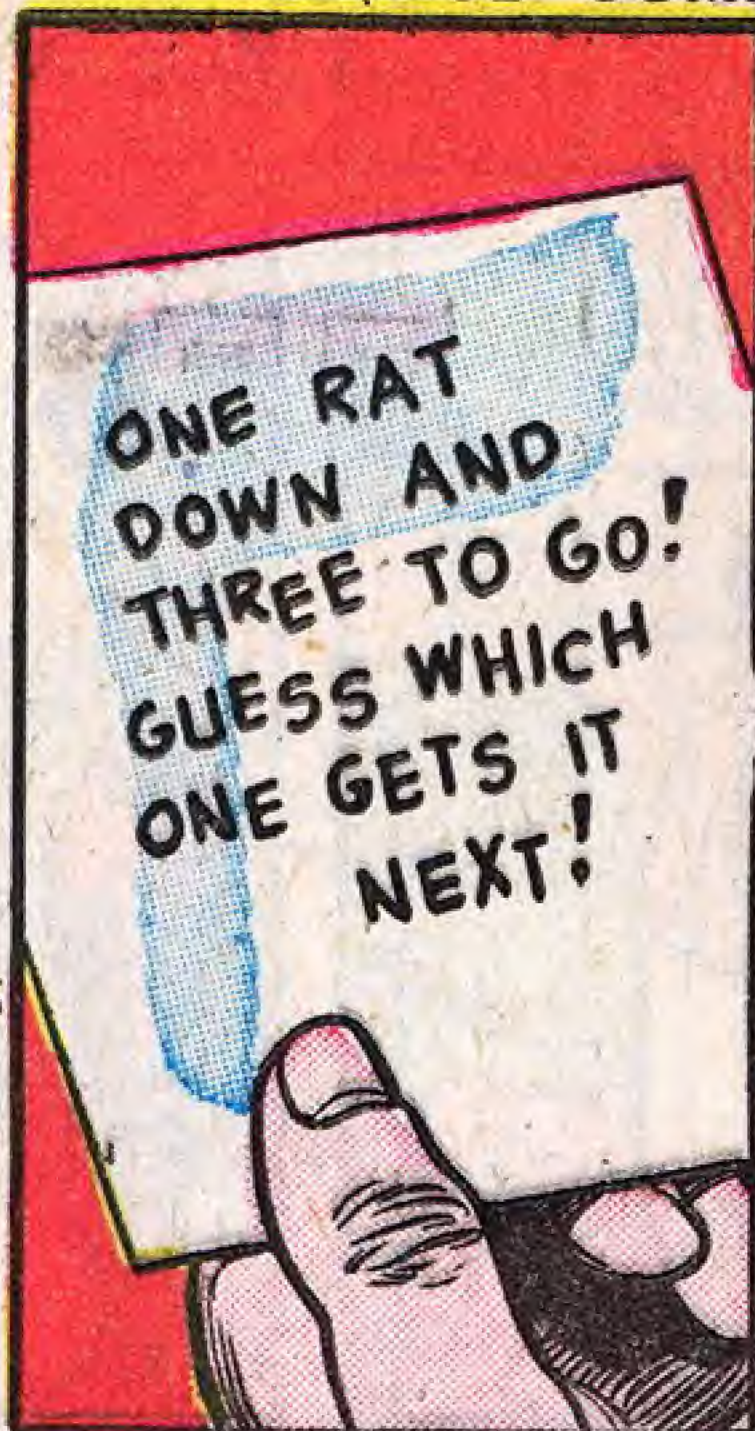
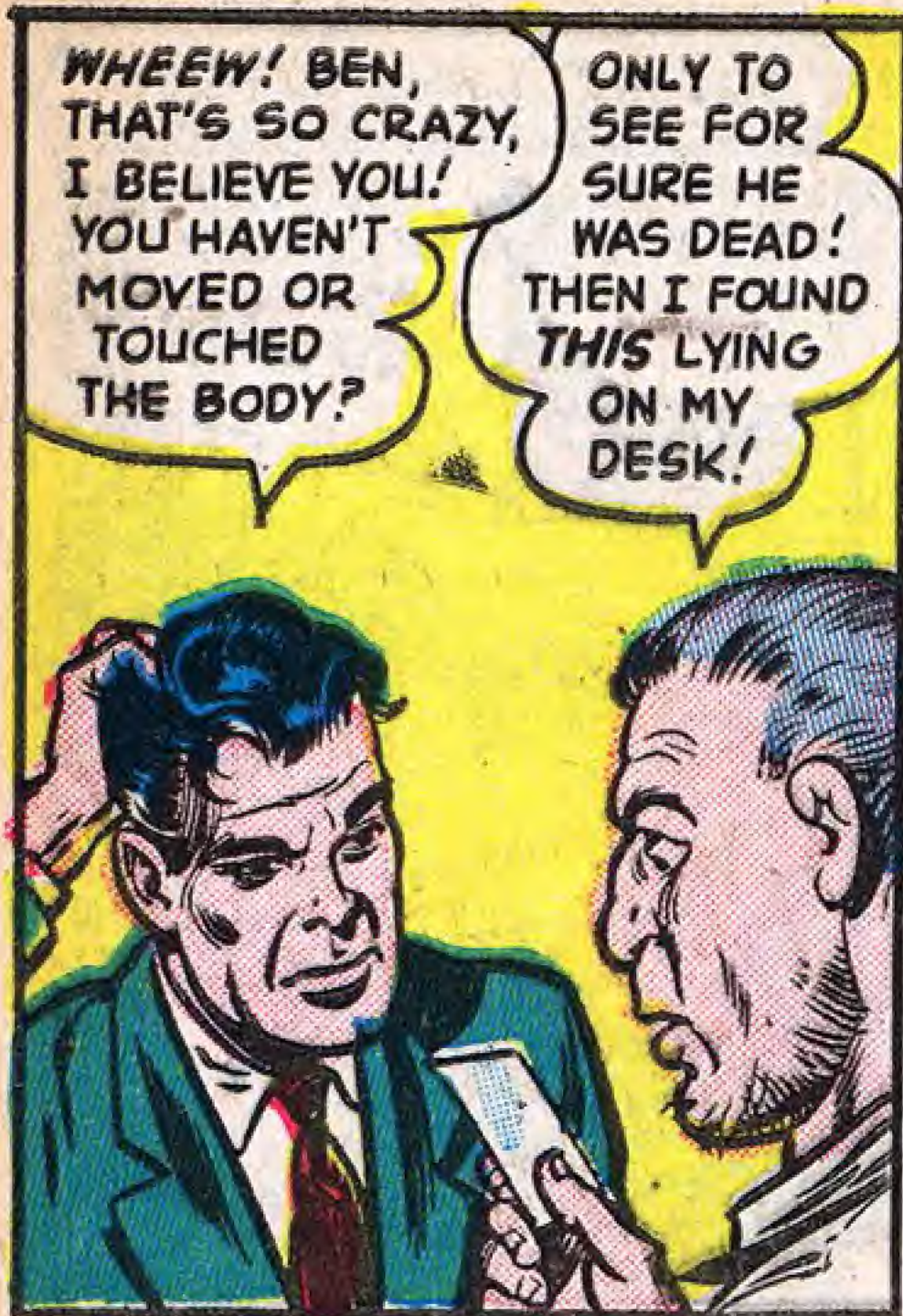
LET'S HAVE IT, BEN! WHAT REALLY HAPPENED HERE?

YOU WON'T BELIEVE ME! WE WERE ALL WALKING ACROSS THE CLUB WHEN WE HEARD A FUNNY, HIGH SCREAM THAT FILLED THE AIR ...



IT WAS EVERYWHERE, SHANNON! THEN THERE WAS A CRACK! AND BAT FELL DOWN, JUST LIKE HE IS NOW, WITH HIS NECK BUSTED AND NOT A SOUL NEAR HIM!



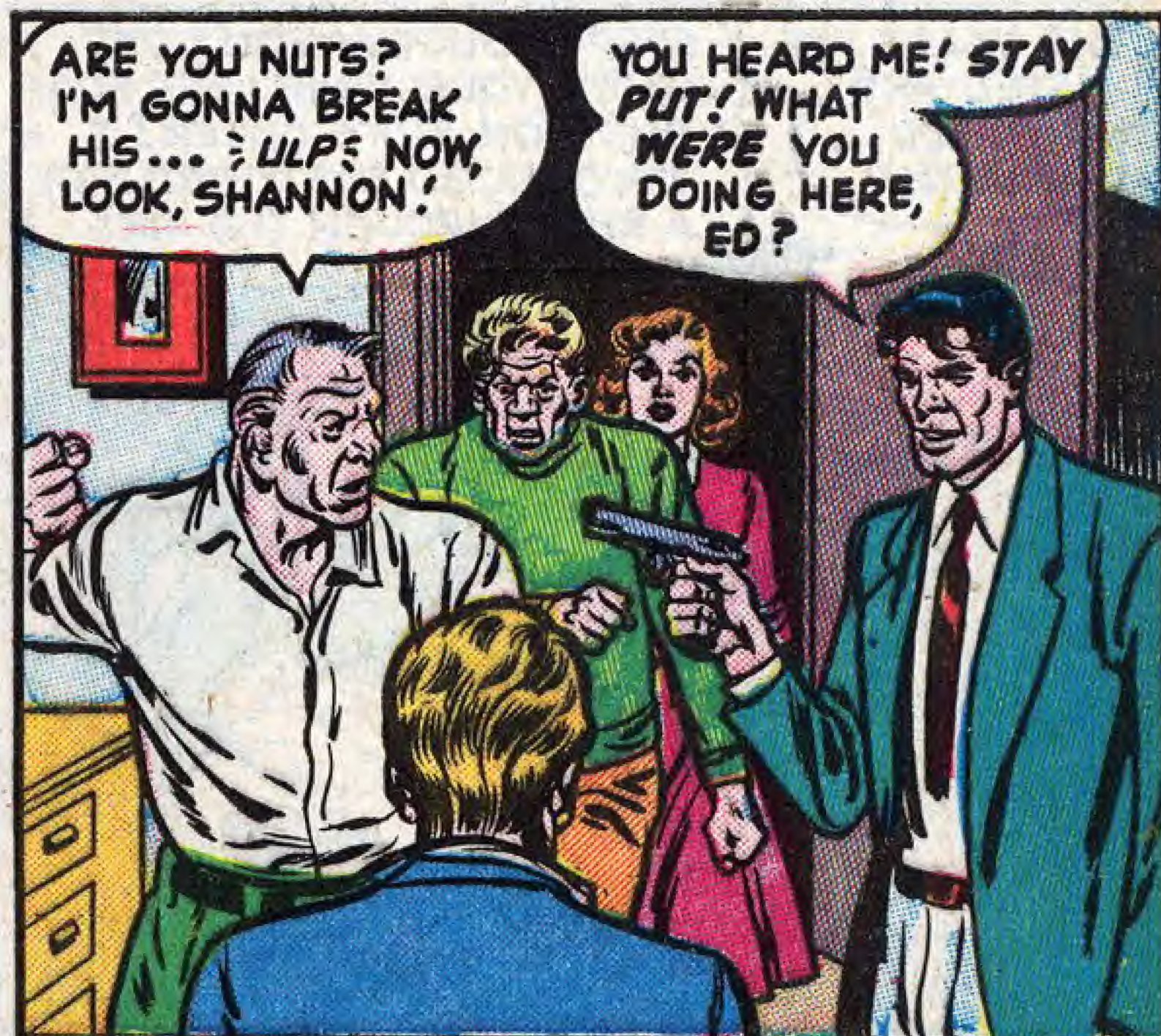
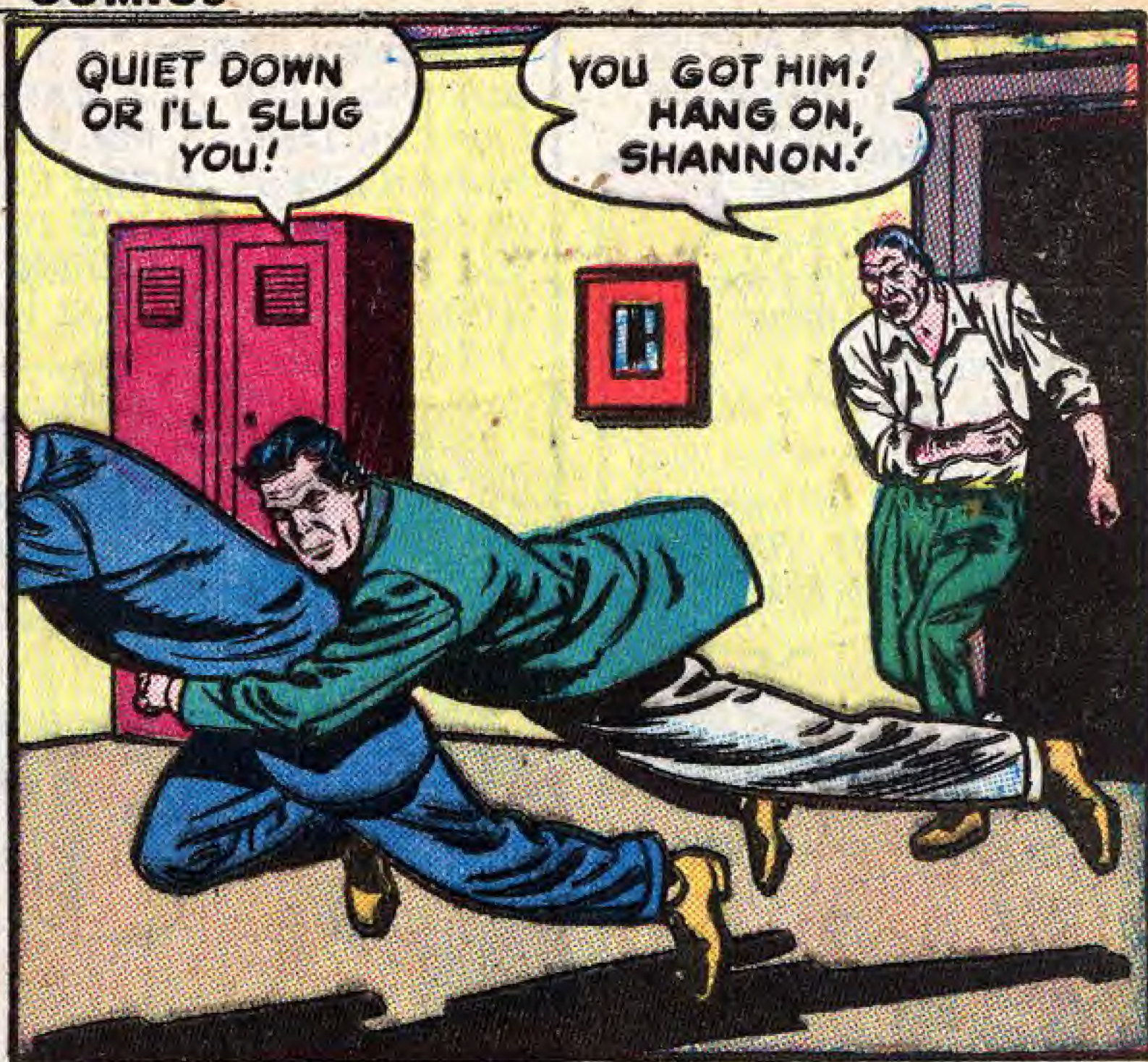
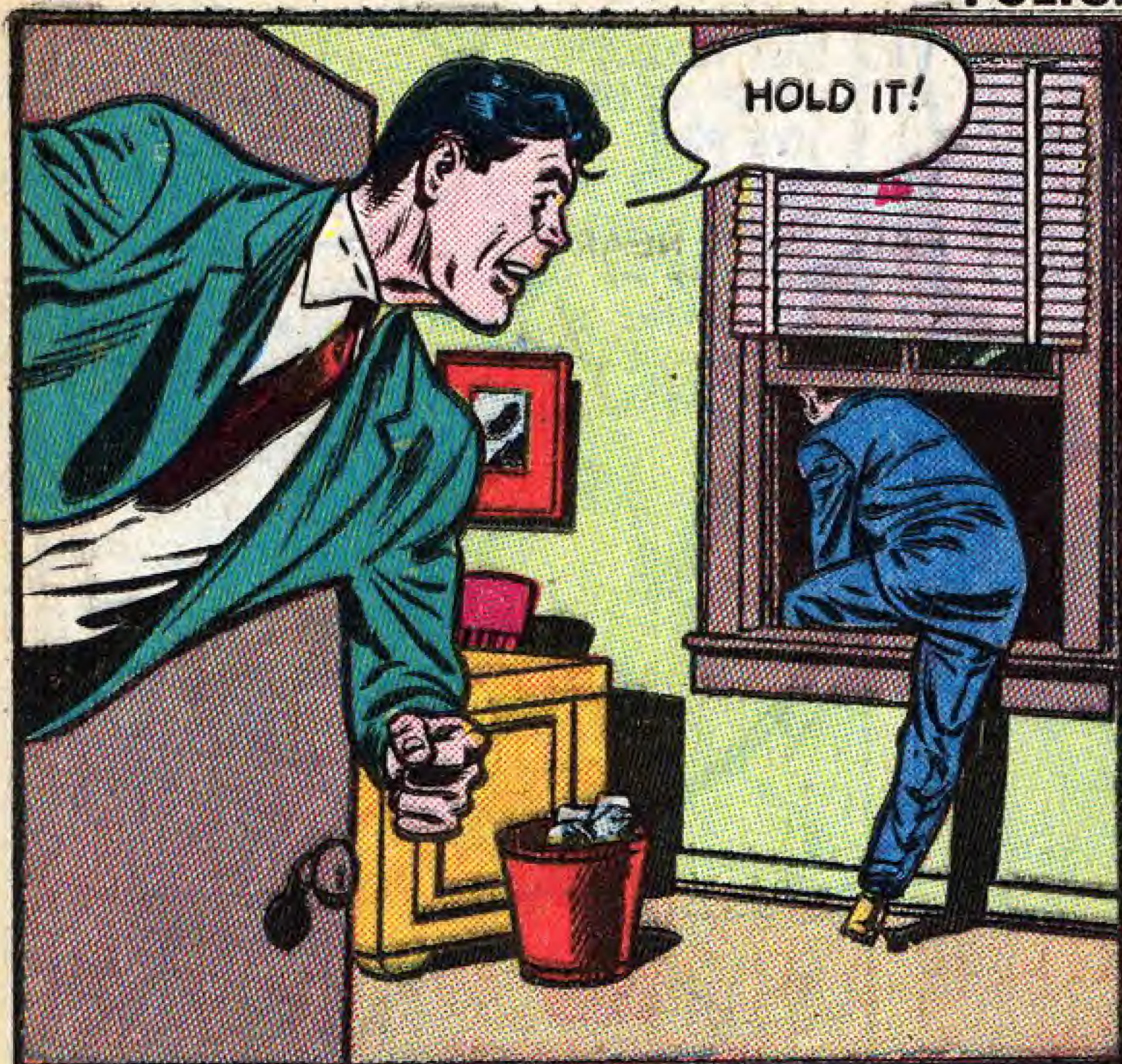


AND THEN I HEARD IT.. A SOFT WHISPER FILLING THE AIR, RISING TO A DRONING SHRIEK, INHUMAN, TERRIFYING!



II THREW MYSELF AT SIM AS HE FELL! THERE WAS NOTHING TO SEE-- NOTHING BUT THE MARKS OF HUGE HANDS --AND SOMETHING ELSE--





I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO-- AND IT MADE ME A LITTLE SICK!

STAY BACK, ALL OF YOU! BEN, IF YOU OR SAM MAKE ONE MOVE, I'LL SHOOT YOU MYSELF! I MEAN THAT!

I GUESS MAYBE YOU DO, SHANNON! IT'S YOUR BALL!



I'M SORRY, SUDSY, BUT ONLY THE LAW CAN TAKE HUMAN LIVES! WHERE DID YOU HIDE IT? THERE IN THE DISH WATER?

I TRIED TO WARN YOU, MR. SHANNON! YOU BEEN TOO NICE TO ME AND I DIDN'T WANT YOU HURT!



BUT NOBODY'LL STOP ME UNTIL I'VE PAID THEM ALL BACK FOR THE THINGS THEY'VE DONE!

A WHIP! HE DONE IT WITH A BULL-WHIP!



THE YEARS I'VE HATED AND FIGURED... AWRK!

STOP IT, SUDSY! YOU LOST WHEN YOUR WHIP LEFT SOAP SUDS ON SIM'S CHEEK! I RECOGNIZED THE WHISTLE OF A WHIP THROUGH THE AIR!



NOBODY SAW THE WHIP IN THOSE SHADOWS, BUT.. UH-OH!

DON'T TOUCH HIM! I'LL KILL ANYBODY WHO LAYS A HAND ON HIM!



CLEAR OUT, SUDSY! I'LL HOLD THEM AS LONG AS I CAN! LEAVE THE WHIP HERE! YOU'RE THROUGH USING THAT!

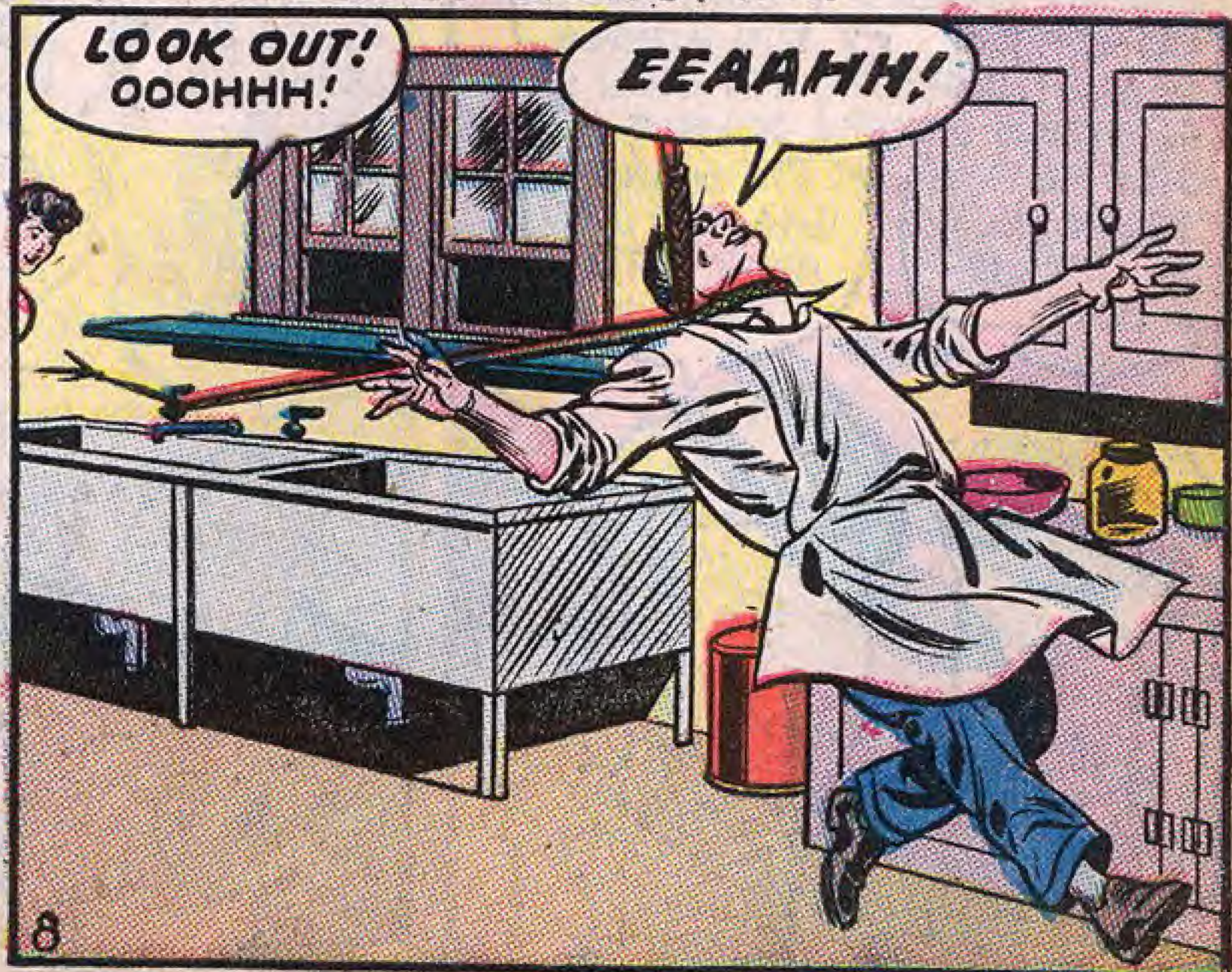
NO, I'M NOT! THERE ARE TWO TURGG'S LEFT! I'LL COME BACK FOR THEM!



I SAW SUDSY'S WHIP CATCH ON A WATER TAP, SAW HIM JERKED BACK BY IT...

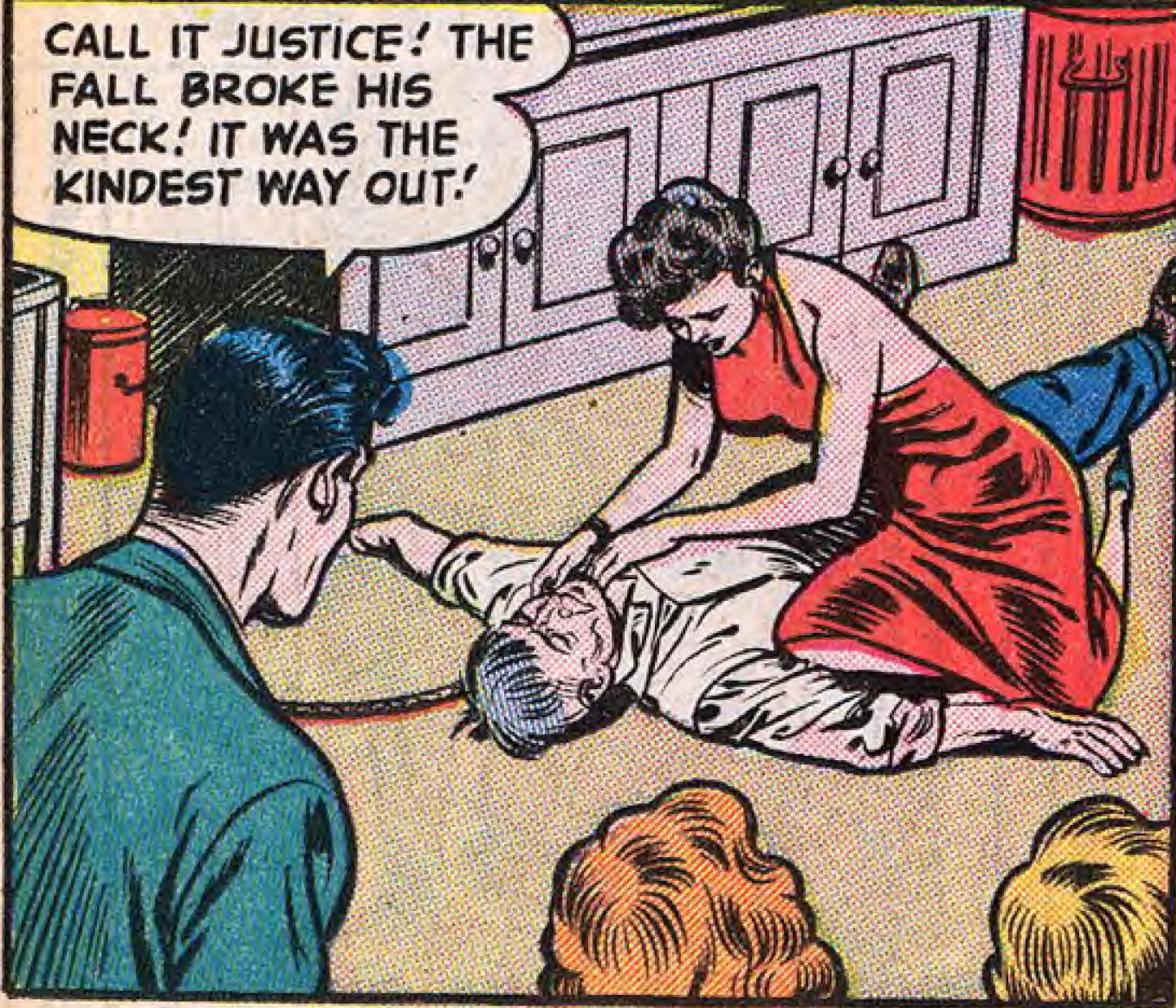
LOOK OUT! OOOHHH!

EEAAHH!



HIS THIN BODY FLIPPED BACKWARD! HE LANDED HARD ON THE BACK OF HIS HEAD!

CALL IT JUSTICE! THE FALL BROKE HIS NECK! IT WAS THE KINDEST WAY OUT!



MY PAL, LIEUTENANT CLYDE OF HOMICIDE, CAME ROARING IN -- BUT HE QUIETED FAST WHEN I GAVE HIM THE PITCH!



POOR OLD DEVIL, TAKING ABUSE ALL THESE YEARS WHILE HE PRACTISED HIS REVENGE! BUT WHO WAS HE, ANYHOW?

MY FATHER!

THE TURGGS WANTED HIS BUSINESS SO THEY RUINED HIM, THEN KEPT HIM AROUND AS A SLAVEY! IT WAS A JOKE TO THEM!

SO YOU WORKED YOUR WAY IN WITH THE TURGGS TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM AND MAYBE LEND A HAND ON THE MURDERS, HAH?



ART, IF YOU TRY TO MAKE ANYTHING OUT OF THAT GUESS, I'LL LOUSE YOU UP, BUT GOOD! THE GIRL IS INNOCENT!

SURE, SHE IS, KEN! WE'VE GOT NOTHING ON HER! I WAS JUST THINKING OUT LOUD! THIS CASE IS ALL WASHED UP!



BUT YOU TWO APES -- I'VE A NOTION TO SLAP YOU BOTH IN THE CAN IF I HAVE TO DREAM UP A NEW CHARGE!

SAVE THE BLUSTER, COPPER! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS WHOLE MESS!

ED HESS CAN HAVE HIS CRUMMY CLUB BACK! I'LL EVEN THROW IN THE SIGNS ADVERTISING HAZEL AS HIS STAR SINGER! WE'RE LEAVING!

COME IN AND GET YOUR CHECK, SHANNON! YOU EARNED IT!

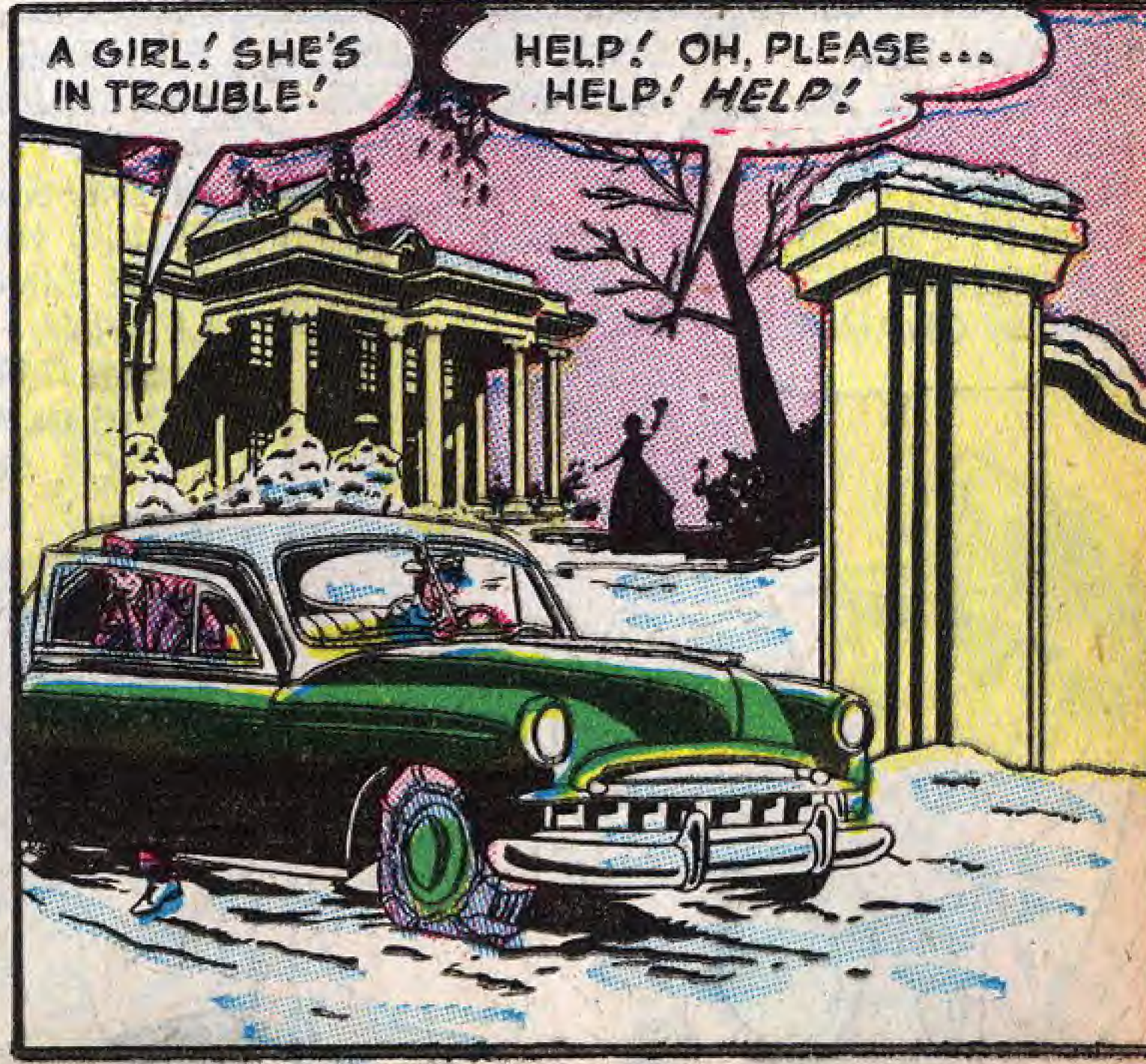
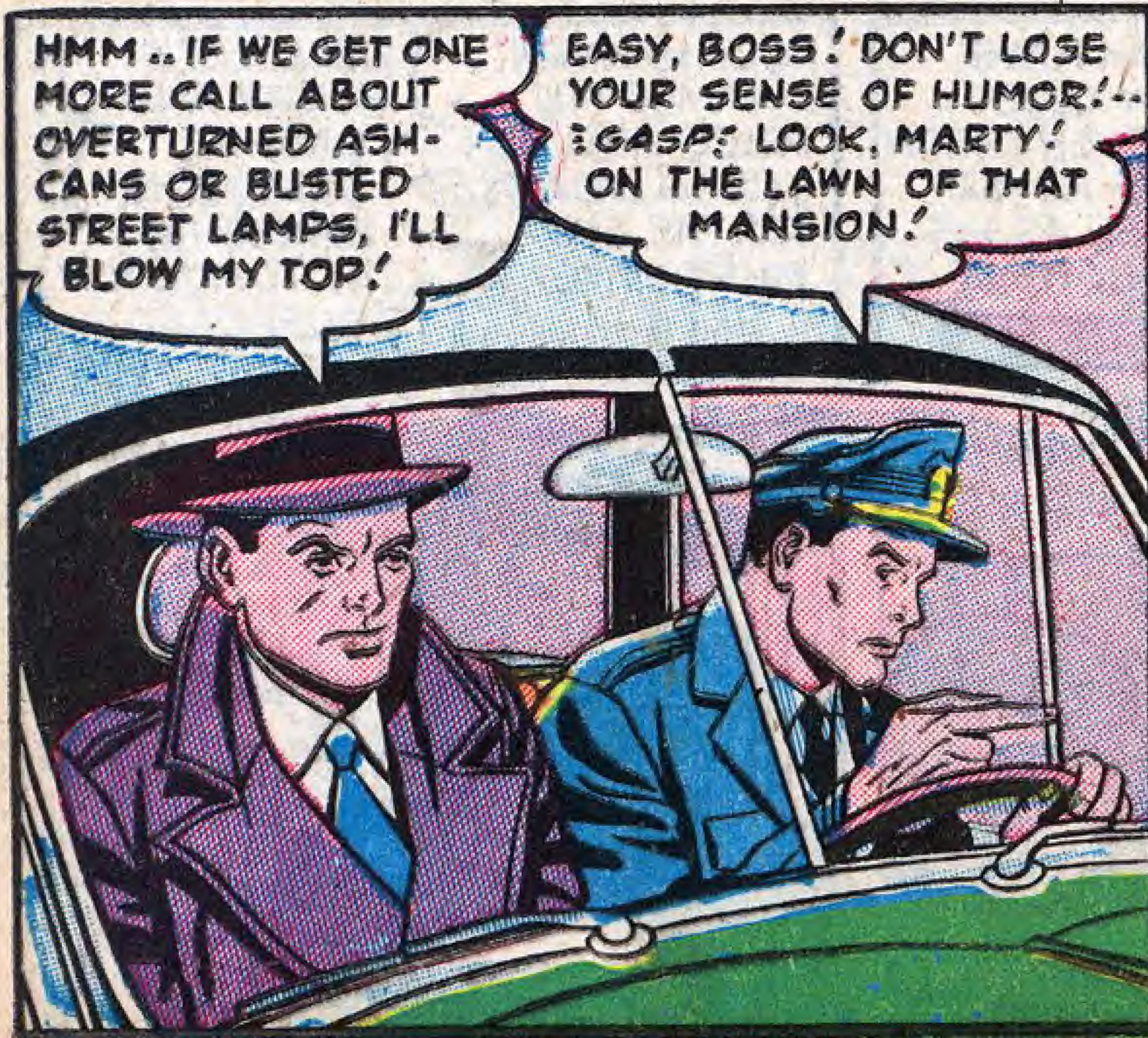


HOLY HANNAH! I NAMED MY PRICE AND BEN TURGG DOUBLED IT! THE GUY MUST HAVE BEEN DREAMING!

WELL, LET'S HURRY AND CASH IT, BEFORE HE WAKES UP, KEN! TOMORROW IS SUPPOSED TO BE MY PAYDAY!



Inspector DENVER



POLICE COMICS



POLICE COMICS



POLICE COMICS



HE LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY GUNSEL!

RIGHT... BUT HOW DOES HE FIT IN? THAT'S THE TICKLER! RUB SOME SNOW ON HIS FACE, CASSIDY ...



MERRY CHRISTMAS, CHUM! YOU'VE DONE A FINE NIGHT'S WORK! BUT WHAT MADE YOU SO GENEROUS? YOU DIDN'T KILL HASTINGS FOR MONEY! THERE ISN'T A NICKEL ON YOU!

Y-YOU'RE RIGHT! GASP!... IT WAS A STICK-UP! A STICK-UP, SEE? I HAD MY ORDERS!



I AIN'T SITTING IN THAT HOT SEAT ALONE! SOMEBODY'S GOIN' TO SIT ON MY LAP! I'LL TELL YOU WHO HIRED ME! IT WAS.. AARGHH!

UP THERE!

BANG BANG



NO USE! THE KILLER'S DISAPPEARED INSIDE!

HE MUST BE LONE-SOME! LET'S JOIN HIM!



BUT AS DENVER ENTERED THE ROOM...

I'M BILL HASTINGS!... I JUST GOT HERE! I HEARD SHOTS! WHERE'S EVERYBODY?

WE WERE WONDERING THE SAME THING! -- WHERE WERE YOU GOING TONIGHT WITH YOUR FATHER?



TO AN ENGAGEMENT PARTY-- DAD'S ENGAGEMENT PARTY! MY FATHER PLANNED TO GET MARRIED NEXT WEEK!... TO A GIRL HALF HIS AGE, THE OLD FOOL!

I MIGHT ADD THAT BILL KNEW THERE WAS A CHANGE IN HIS FATHER'S WILL EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1ST, WHICH WOULD MAKE HASTINGS' NEW WIFE HIS HEIR, RATHER THAN POOR BILL!



SO YOU DECIDED TO COME BACK INTO CIRCULATION, MR. GRANGER! WHERE'S MISS WESTWICK?

SHE RAN OUT OF THE ROOM WHEN SHE HEARD THE SHOTS! I RAN AFTER HER, BUT SHE GAVE ME THE SLIP! A RATHER SUSPICIOUS THING TO DO, DON'T YOU THINK?



YOU'VE BEEN POINTING THE FINGER AT EVERYBODY TONIGHT, GRANGER! LET'S POINT ONE AT YOU! DAD TOLD ME YOU'D BEEN STEALING FROM HIM! HE THREATENED TO EXPOSE YOU!

QUITE SO!... BUT I DIDN'T STEAL! I MERELY INVESTED SOME OF HASTINGS' SECURITIES WITHOUT HIS KNOWLEDGE!

POLICE COMICS

IN YOUR NAME! WHEN DAD CONFRONTED YOU, YOU SAID YOU WERE DESPERATELY IN NEED OF MONEY! YOU BEGGED HIM FOR ENOUGH TIME TO RETURN THE MONEY ...

I'M NOT DENYING IT! MY FINANCIAL CONDITION IS FAR FROM GOOD!

THERE'S \$20,000 IN CASH IN YOUR BRIEFCASE, GRANGER! I'VE BEEN CARRYING IT AROUND FOR A WEEK! IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HASTINGS' CONSOLATION MONEY TO MISS WESTWICK!

USUALLY DOESN'T RUN AROUND WITH THIS KIND OF CASH!

BY THE WAY, I'D "CHERCHEZ LA FEMME" IF I WERE YOU LIEUTENANT! MISS WESTWICK DIDN'T RUN AWAY BECAUSE SHE HAS AN EASY CONSCIENCE!

I DON'T KNOW, GRANGER ... SHE MAY BE FRIGHTENED! BUT YOU DON'T FRIGHTEN EASILY, DO YOU?

FOR INSTANCE, YOU SAID YOU'D BEEN WRITING UP THE SEVERANCE AGREEMENT WHEN YOU WERE STRUCK FROM BEHIND! BUT YOUR PEN IS CLOSED, MR. GRANGER! DID IT CLOSE BY ITSELF AS YOU DROPPED TO THE FLOOR?

HOW CAN I BE SURE? I WAS UNCONSCIOUS!

YOU CAN BE SURE YOU WERE LYING! ANY PEN YOU HELD WOULD HAVE BEEN OPEN!

AND YOU NEVER CARRIED AROUND THIS CASH FOR A WEEK, BECAUSE THE PAPER CONTAINING IT IS DATED TODAY...

SMART BLOODHOUND! YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO REPEAT THAT DEDUCTION! - YES! I HIRED THAT THUG TO KILL HASTINGS AND KNOCK ME UNCONSCIOUS! BUT MONA WESTWICK CAME IN UNEXPECTEDLY AND NICK HAD TO TAKE REFUGE UPSTAIRS!

WHAT WAS THE MOTIVE? DOUGH?

EXACTLY! I KNEW THAT WHEN HASTINGS WOULD OPEN HIS WALL SAFE TO TAKE OUT THE NEW WILL AND CONTRACT, I COULD GET MY HANDS ON THE CASH INSIDE ...

OWWWW!

GRAB HIM, CASSIDY!

GOT HIM! WHAT NEXT, MARTY?

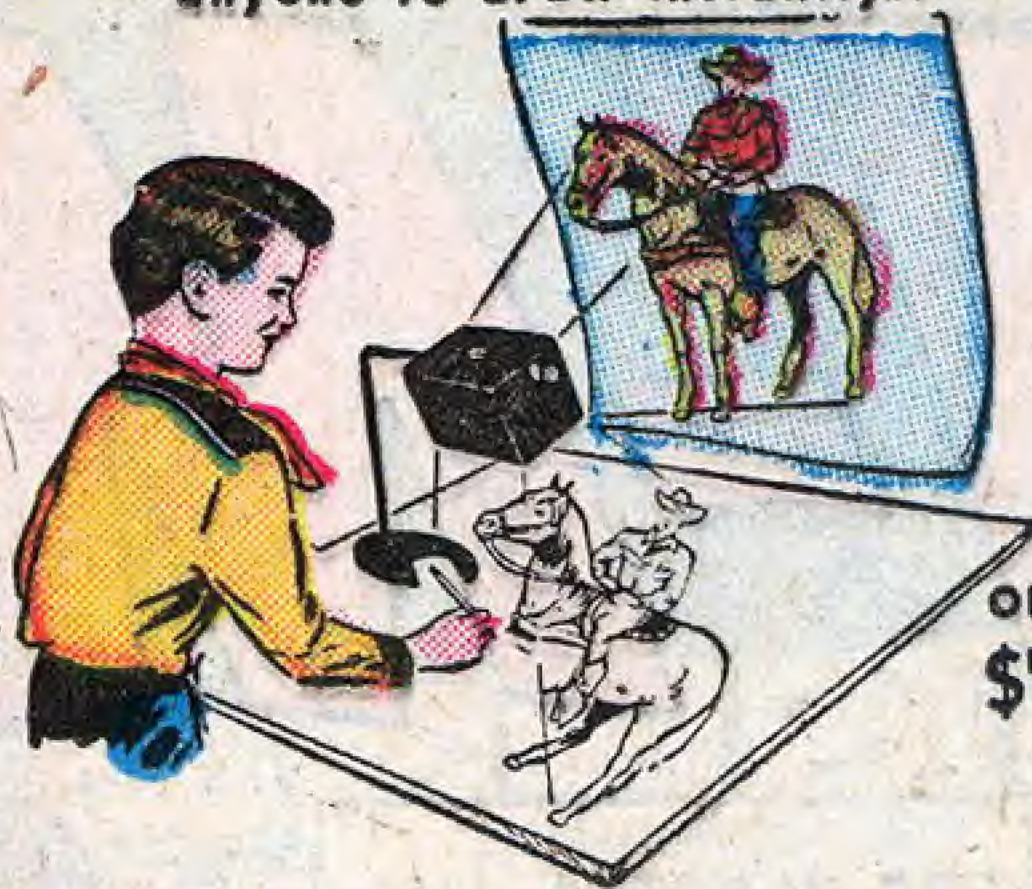
MR. GRANGER GETS A NICE, SHINEY PAIR OF HANDCUFFS! MAYBE YOU DIDN'T LOOK FOR A HOT SEAT, GRANGER, BUT, BROTHER ... YOU'RE GOING TO GET ONE!

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318 Market Street, Newark, New Jersey
- Rush me the Master Art Helper and your free booklet, "Easily Understood Tricks of the Artist."
- ☐ I enclose \$1.98, send postage prepaid. I understand I can return this merchandise after a 10-day trial and my money will be refunded.
- ☐ I enclose \$2.98, send Deluxe Model.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

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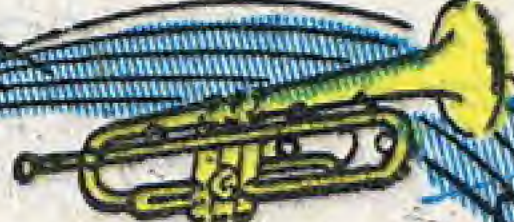
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T-MAN

SOMEWHERE IN KOREA AN AMERICAN HAD LEFT A METAL BOX CONTAINING A COOL HALF-MILLION! DID I SAY COOL? THAT MOOLA WAS HOTTER THAN A TWO-DOLLAR PISTOL! TO THE COMMIES IT MEANT MORE BULLETS TO THROW AT AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND TO ME IT MEANT BRUSHING WITH THE BLOOD-THIRSTIEST CUT-THROATS THAT EVER DREW A KNIFE! BUT FINDING THAT TORRID LETTUCE WAS THE EASY PART OF MY ASSIGNMENT! GETTING IT OUT OF PYONG-YANG WAS SOMETHING ELSE AGAIN... AND THAT'S WHERE I LEARNED THE BLOODY RED VERSION OF **TERROR BEHIND THE LINES!**



I DIDN'T HAVE TO TAKE THE ASSIGNMENT! JUST CHALK IT UP TO MY LOVE FOR TRAVEL!

LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT, CHIEF! MR. LANGDON DECIDES TO CHUCK HIS IMPORTING BUSINESS WHEN THE NORTH KOREANS START TO PAINT THE TOWN RED! AND HE LEAVES THAT DOUGH IN HIS PYONGYANG OFFICE? WHAT MAKES YOU THINK IT'S STILL THERE?

IT'S STILL THERE, MR. TRASK! THEY'D HAVE TO TEAR DOWN THE BUILDING TO FIND IT!

BUT THIS WILL TELL YOU WHERE TO FIND THAT METAL BOX... AND MAYBE A FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD WILL GIVE YOU THE INSPIRATION!

YOU SEE, THIS ISN'T STRICTLY A TREASURY JOB, PETE! YOU CAN TURN IT DOWN IF YOU WANT TO, BUT THE GOVERNMENT'S ANXIOUS TO KEEP THAT COIN OUT OF RED HANDS!

YOU WANT ME TO GO OVER, CHIEF?

I WON'T BLAME YOU IF YOU SAY NO, PETE! JUST REMEMBER THAT HALF A MILLION AMERICAN DOLLARS MAY COST THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN LIVES IF UNCLE JOE'S BOYS FIND IT FIRST!



POLICE COMICS

I WAS ON MY WAY TO TOKYO THAT NIGHT! AND SOON... MUCH TOO SOON!

DON'T EVER SAY THAT THE AIR FORCE DOESN'T CONDUCT A PEACHY SIGHT-SEEING TOUR, MR. TRASK! WHEN HAVE YOU SEEN A LOVELIER VIEW?

OH, IT'S DIVINE! THANKS A HEAP FOR THE RIDE, CAPTAIN!

THAT'S PYONG-YANG TO THE NORTH, WHERE YOU SEE THOSE LIGHTS! GOOD LUCK, FELLA!

THANKS AGAIN! IF I EVER GET BACK FROM THIS TOUR REMIND ME TO SHOW YOU MY SNAPSHOTS, DEARIE!

THAT FLIPPANT CHATTER WAS JUST A BLIND TO COVER UP THE TIGHTNESS I FELT INSIDE! BUT AS I PLUMMETED DOWNWARD, THE COLD WIND WASN'T HALF AS SHARP AS THE ICY FEELING OF FEAR!

IF ONE OF THOSE UNPLEASANT PEASANTS SPOTS THIS SILK, THE ONLY BOX I'M GOING TO SEE IS A WOODEN ONE, SIX FEET LONG!

BUT MY LUCK HADN'T RUN OUT YET!

THIS KOREAN GET-UP WON'T STAND CLOSE INSPECTION! THE SOONER I CAN GET LOST IN A CROWD THE BETTER MY CHANCES ARE TO... OH-OH! COMMIE SOLDIERS!

HALT, SON OF SWINEHERDER! YOU WILL SHOW IDENTIFICATION PAPERS AT ONCE!

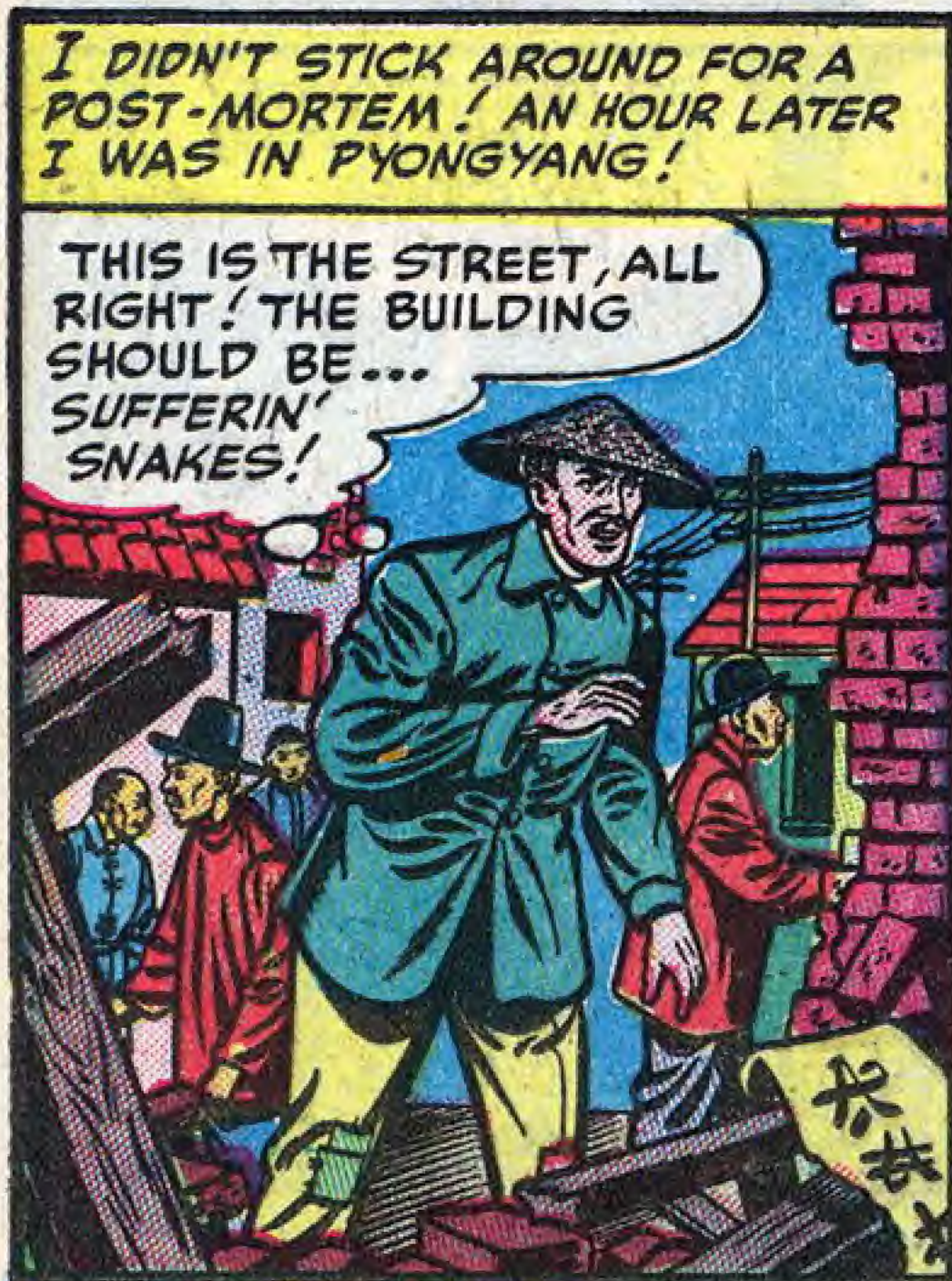
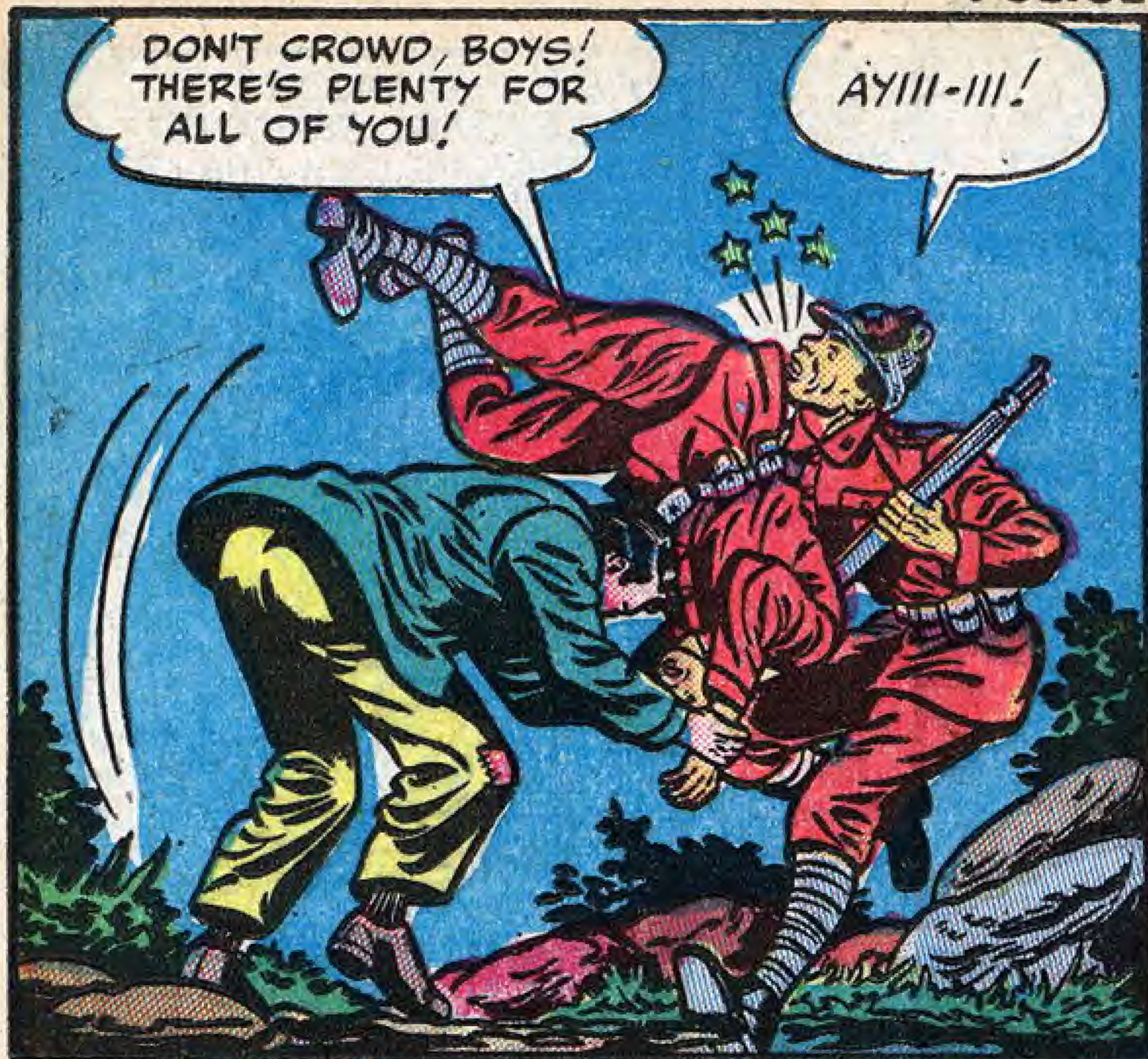
SO UNFORTUNATE! HAVE LEFT PAPERS IN MY OTHER PANTS!

ARGH!

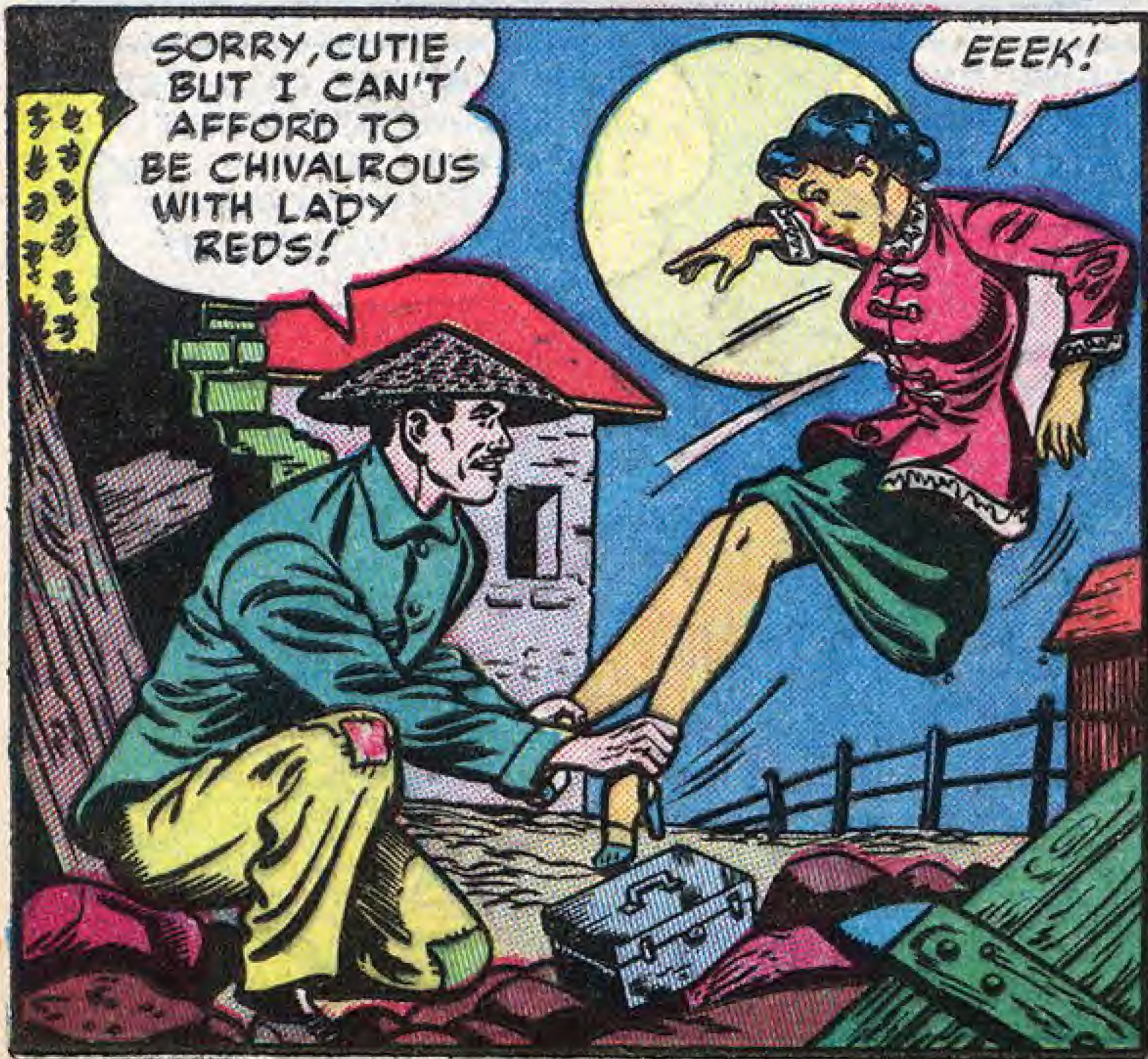
AND I JUST SENT MY SUNDAY SUIT TO THE CLEANERS!

SEIZE THE IMPOSTOR! KILL HIM!

TSK! TSK! THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WON'T LIKE THIS! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO MAKE ME FEEL WELCOME!



I HAD FOUND THE BUILDING LANGDON HAD DESCRIBED, BUT EVIDENTLY OUR AIR FORCE HAD FOUND IT FIRST! AND SUDDENLY, IN THE RUBBLE, I SAW SOMETHING THAT MADE MY HAIR CURL!





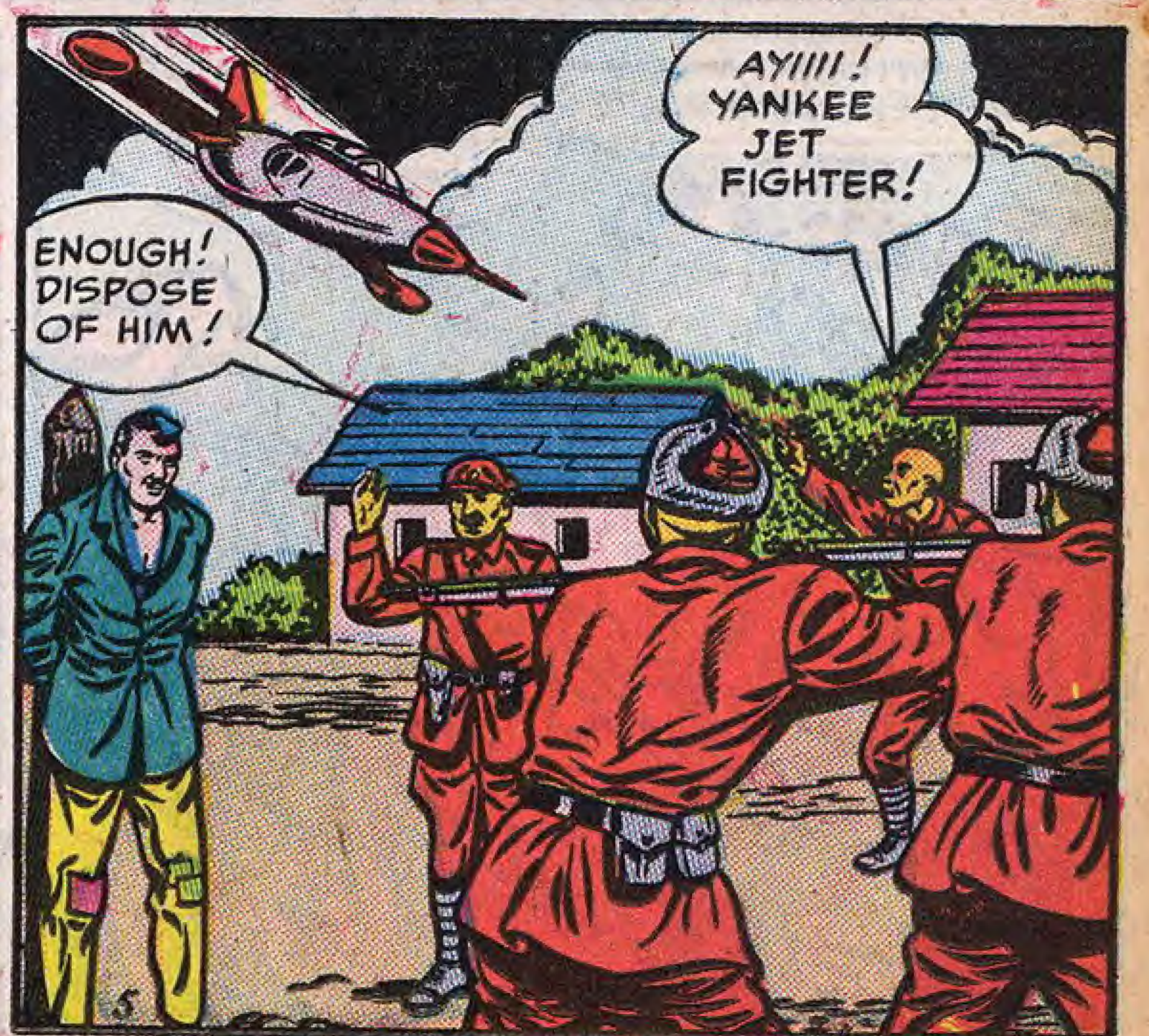
I FELT LIKE A FLY FOLLOWING A SPIDER INTO ITS WEB AS WE ANKLED INTO LIN TOY'S HANGOUT! BUT IF SHE HAD THAT FOLDING GREEN, I WASN'T GOING TO LOSE HER!



I GOT A FAST GLIMPSE OF LIN TOY TAKING A POWDER ...AND THEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT!



AND WHEN I WOKE UP, I TOOK ONE LOOK AROUND AND WISHED I WAS KNOCKED OUT AGAIN!



THE AIR FORCE NEVER LOOKED SWEETER TO ME!
I SAW THE COMMIES SCATTER LIKE RABBITS,
AND, INSTEAD OF THE CRACK OF RIFLES...



AND BEFORE THE DUST HAD CLEARED:



THEY'D GET ME SOONER OR LATER, ANYWAY! I CAN AFFORD TO TAKE CHANCES!

CAN YOU DRIVE THAT CHARIOT, LUSCIOUS?



I DROVE AN OLD TRUCK ON THE FARM! WHY?

BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE PASSENGERS JUST AS SOON AS I RELIEVE THIS APE OF HIS ARTILLERY!



I GET YOU, CHUM! WE'RE TAKING THE BIG BRASS ALONG FOR A CONVOY! AND WITH THE DOUGH I'M CARRYING, WE'LL NEED IT!

YOU'RE SO RIGHT, HONEY! GET THAT G-I. HOT ROD STARTED!



AND WHILE LIN TOY MADE LIKE A CHAUFFEUR!

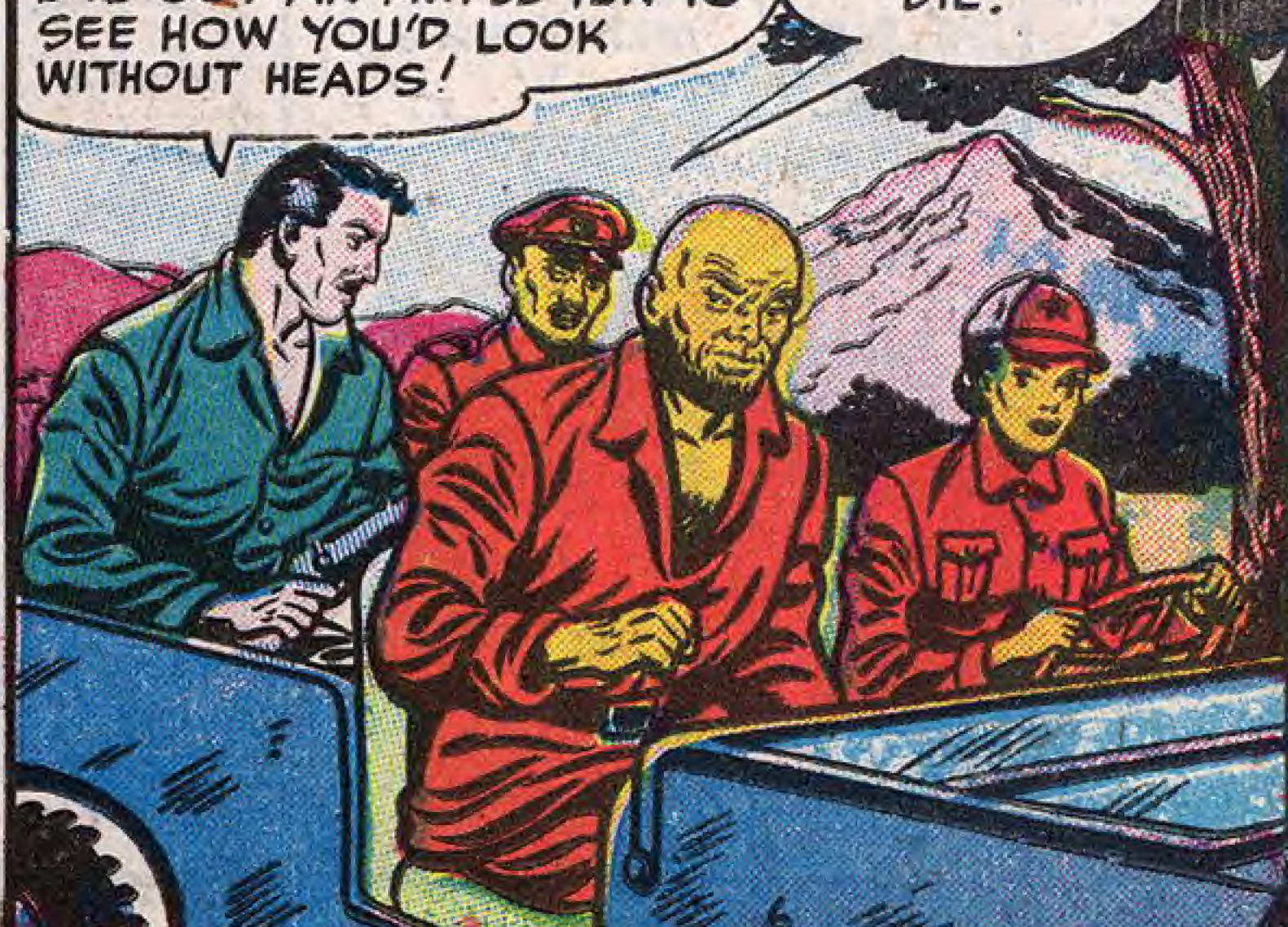
DON'T LOOK NOW, KIDS, BUT WE'RE GOING FOR A BUGGY RIDE!

AWG! THE AMERICAN!



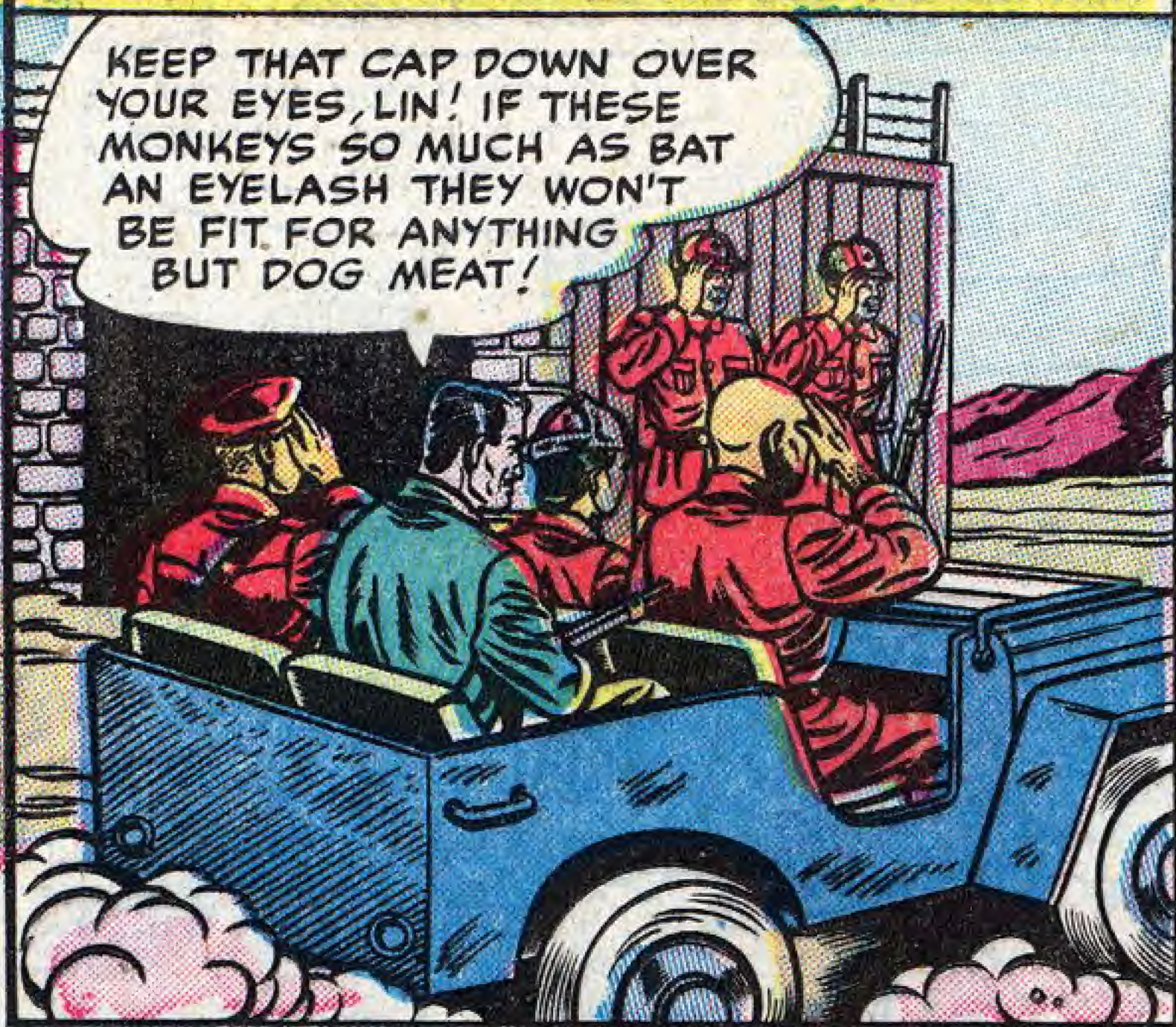
JUST SIT STILL, GENTLEMEN, AND WHEN WE DRIVE PAST YOUR FLUNKY SOLDIERS, SALUTE NICE AND PRETTY! I'VE GOT AN AWFUL YEN TO SEE HOW YOU'D LOOK WITHOUT HEADS!

OBEY HIM, COMRADE SEN! I HAVE NO WISH TO DIE!



I HELD MY BREATH AS WE PASSED THE SENTRY!

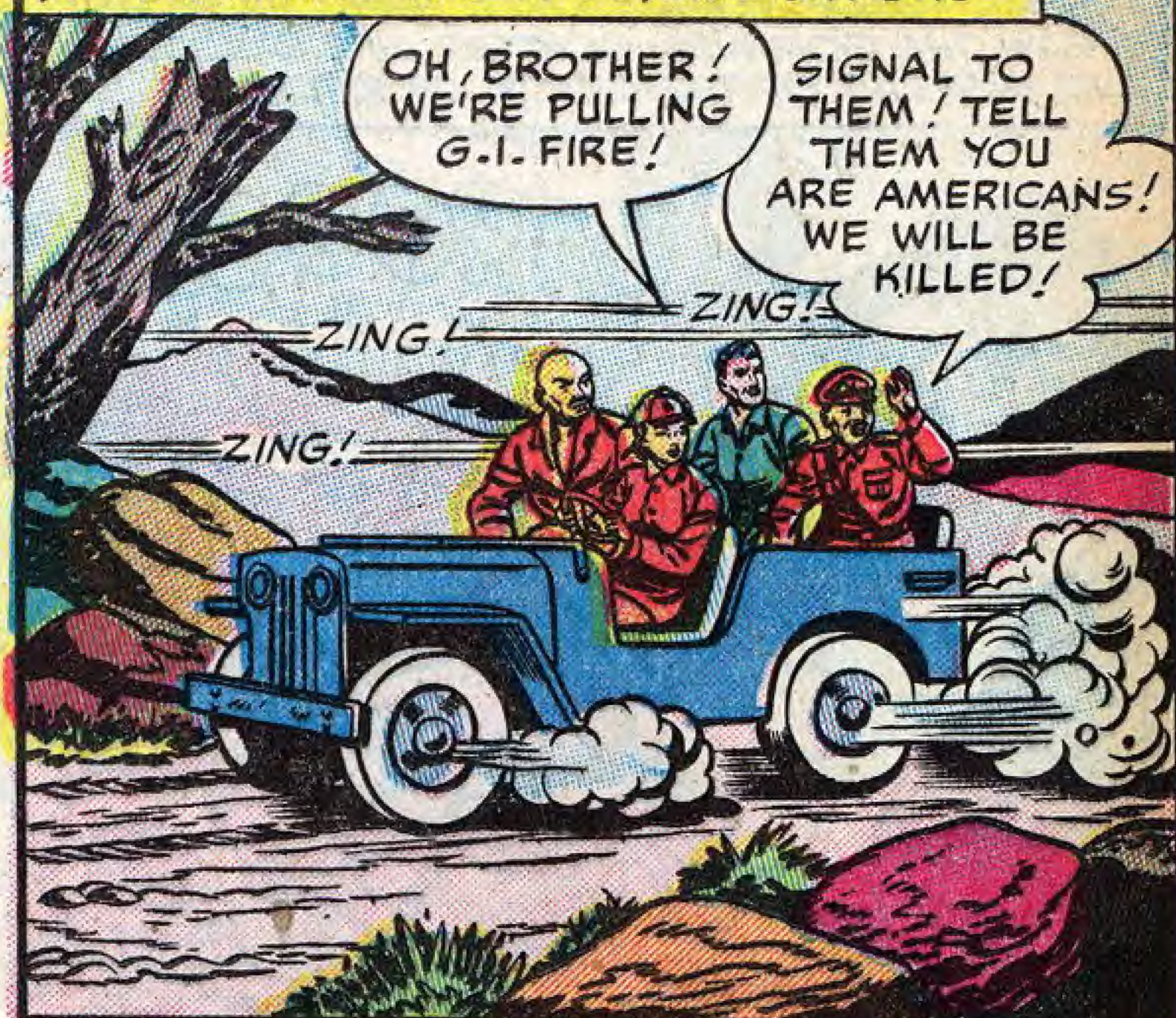
KEEP THAT CAP DOWN OVER YOUR EYES, LIN! IF THESE MONKEYS SO MUCH AS BAT AN EYELASH THEY WON'T BE FIT FOR ANYTHING BUT DOG MEAT!



AFTER THAT IT WAS A JOYRIDE UNTIL...

OH, BROTHER! WE'RE PULLING G.I. FIRE!

SIGNAL TO THEM! TELL THEM YOU ARE AMERICANS! WE WILL BE KILLED!



WAIT A MINUTE! THEY'RE FIRING AT THAT MACHINE GUN NEST!

COMMIE SOLDIERS! WHAT HAPPENS NOW, PETE? WE CAN'T TAKE THE RIFLE OFF THESE VIPERS LONG ENOUGH TO FIRE!

RAT-TAT-TAT!



KEEP 'EM COVERED, LIN TOY! I'VE GOT TO MAKE LIKE A COMMANDO OR WE'RE ALL GOING TO BE STATISTICS IN A MINUTE!



I'VE HAD ICICLES DOWN MY SPINE BEFORE, BUT THIS TIME I FELT LIKE I HAD JUST STEPPED OUT OF A DEEP-FREEZE!

RAT-TAT-TAT!

THEY'RE TOO BUSY TO TURN AROUND! IF I DON'T STOP AN AMERICAN BULLET I MIGHT MAKE IT!



SURPRISE!

AYAAA!

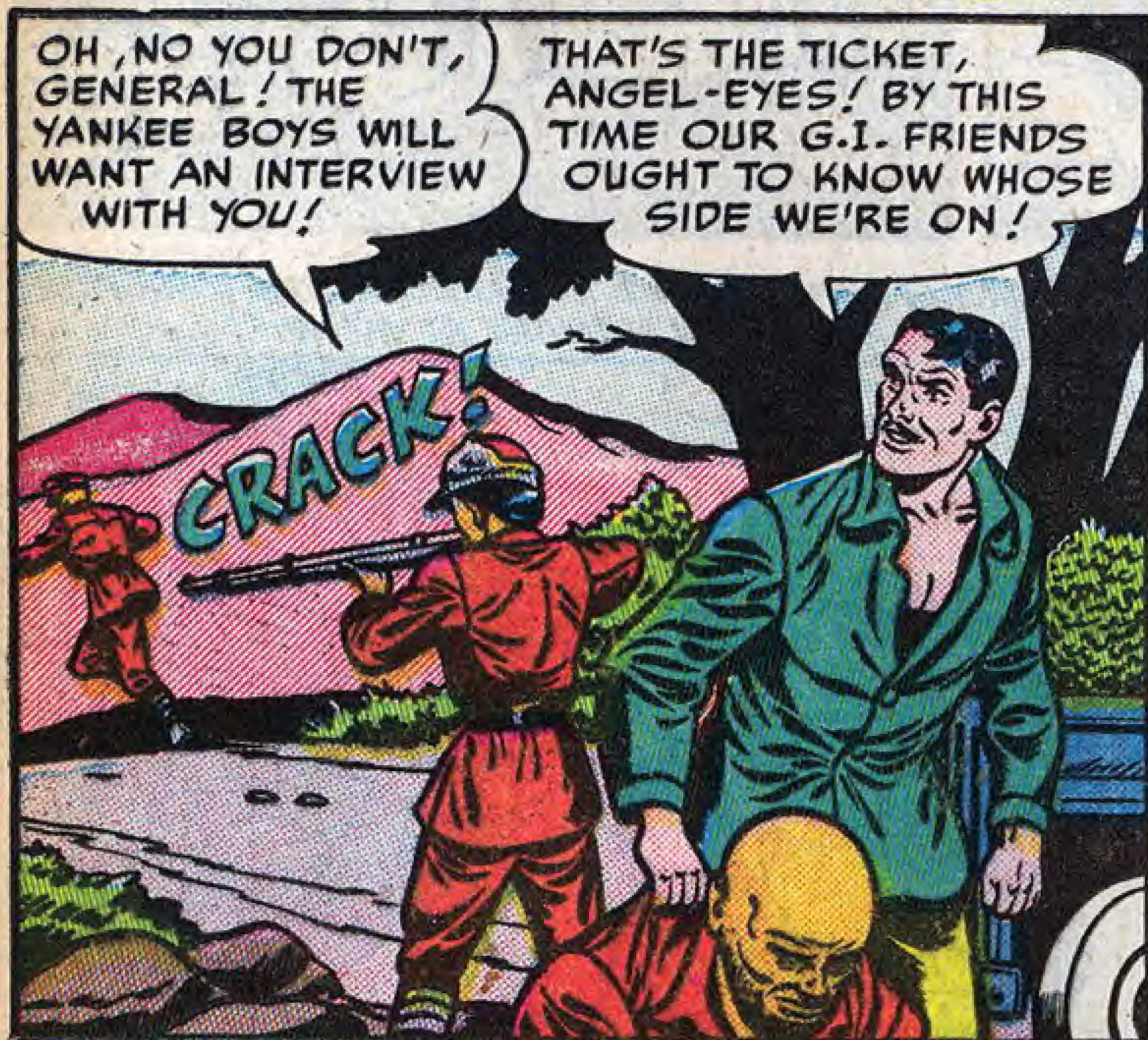


DIDN'T MOMMY TELL YOU IT'S DANGEROUS TO PLAY WITH MACHINE GUNS?

ALL PIM! KILL!



POLICE COMICS



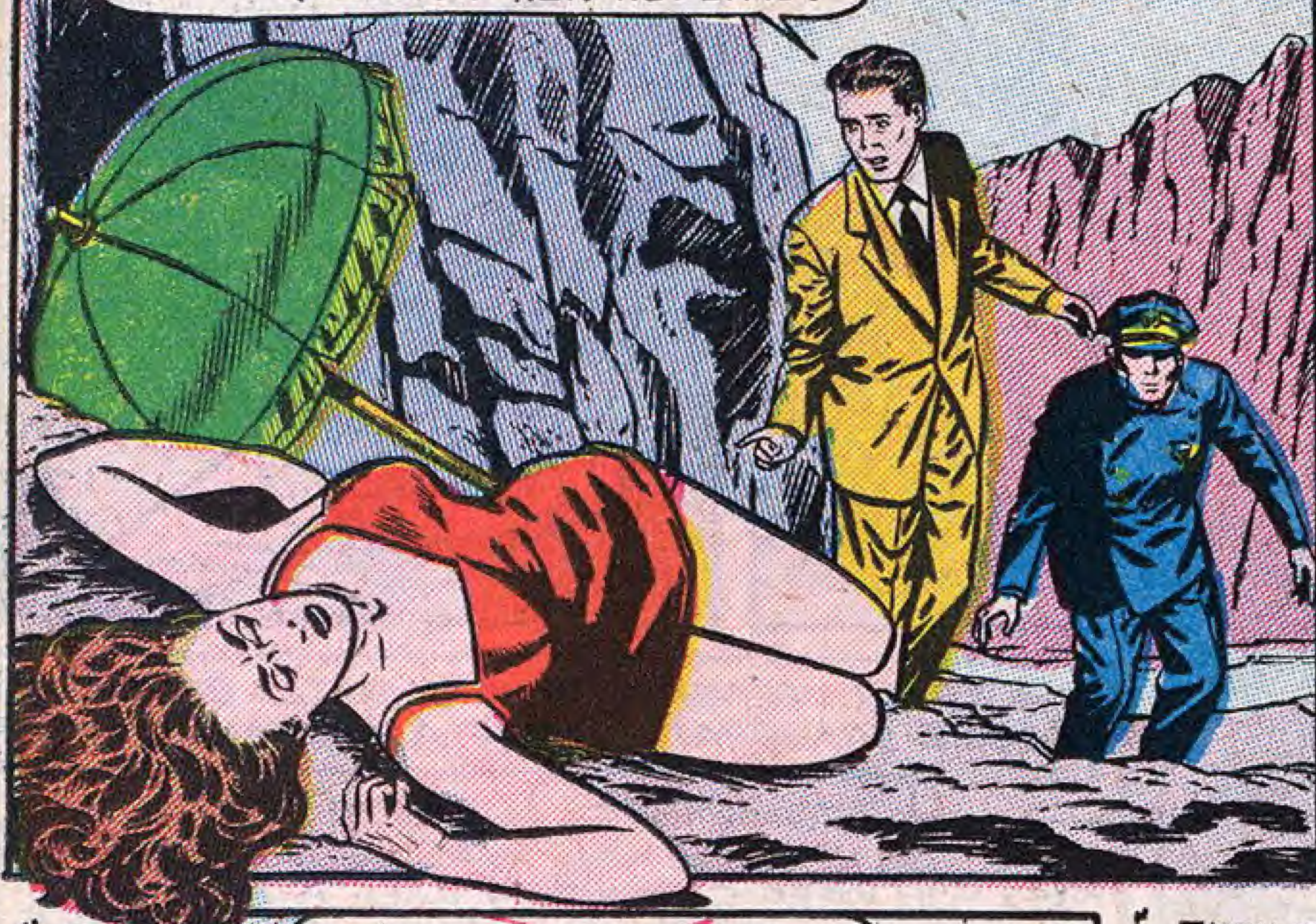
LANGDON WAS HAPPIER TO SEE HIS EX-SECRETARY THAN HIS DOUGH! AT LEAST THE INCOME TAX BOYS COULDN'T GRAB A PERCENTAGE OF LIN TOY!



PICT-O-CRIME

WAS IT AN ACCIDENT? DETECTIVE ALAN SYKES WONDERED AS HE EXAMINED THE CRUMPLED BODY OF WEALTHY MRS. TYLER FORBES, LYING ON THE ROCKS BELOW HER CLIFF-TOP HOME!

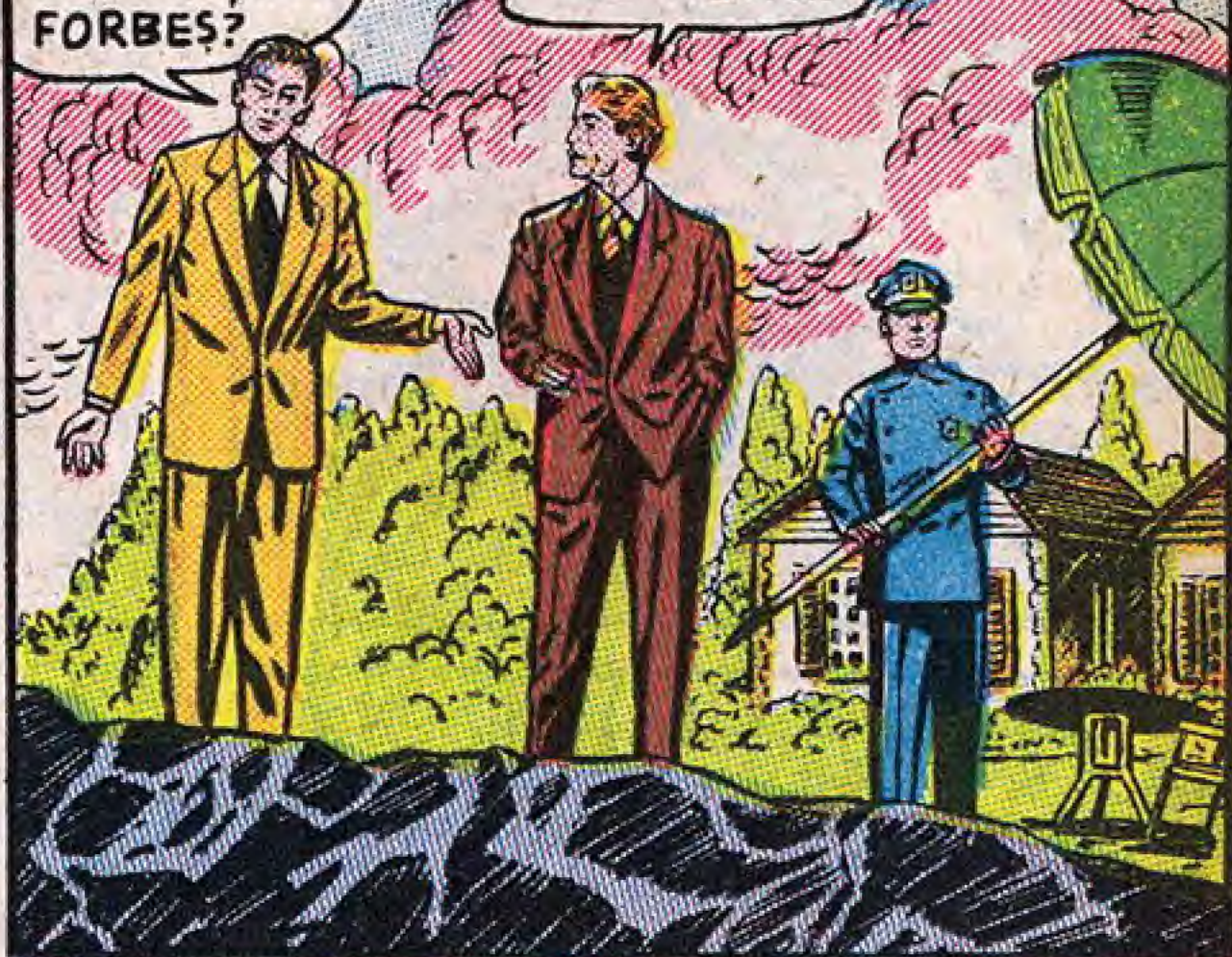
GRADY, BRING ALONG THAT SUN UMBRELLA! I'M GOING UP TO QUESTION HER HUSBAND!



ON THE LAWN OF THE CLIFF-TOP HOME, DETECTIVE SYKES QUESTIONED TYLER FORBES...

JUST HOW DID THIS TRAGEDY HAPPEN, MR. FORBES?

YOU SEE, OFFICER, MY WIFE AND I WERE STANDING NEAR THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF, ADMIRING THE VIEW...



"...WHEN SUDDENLY A FREAK WIND CAME UP! IT STARTED TO WHIP THE BIG SUN UMBRELLA BACK AND FORTH..."

DARLING, WE'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE HOUSE!

YES, DEAR!



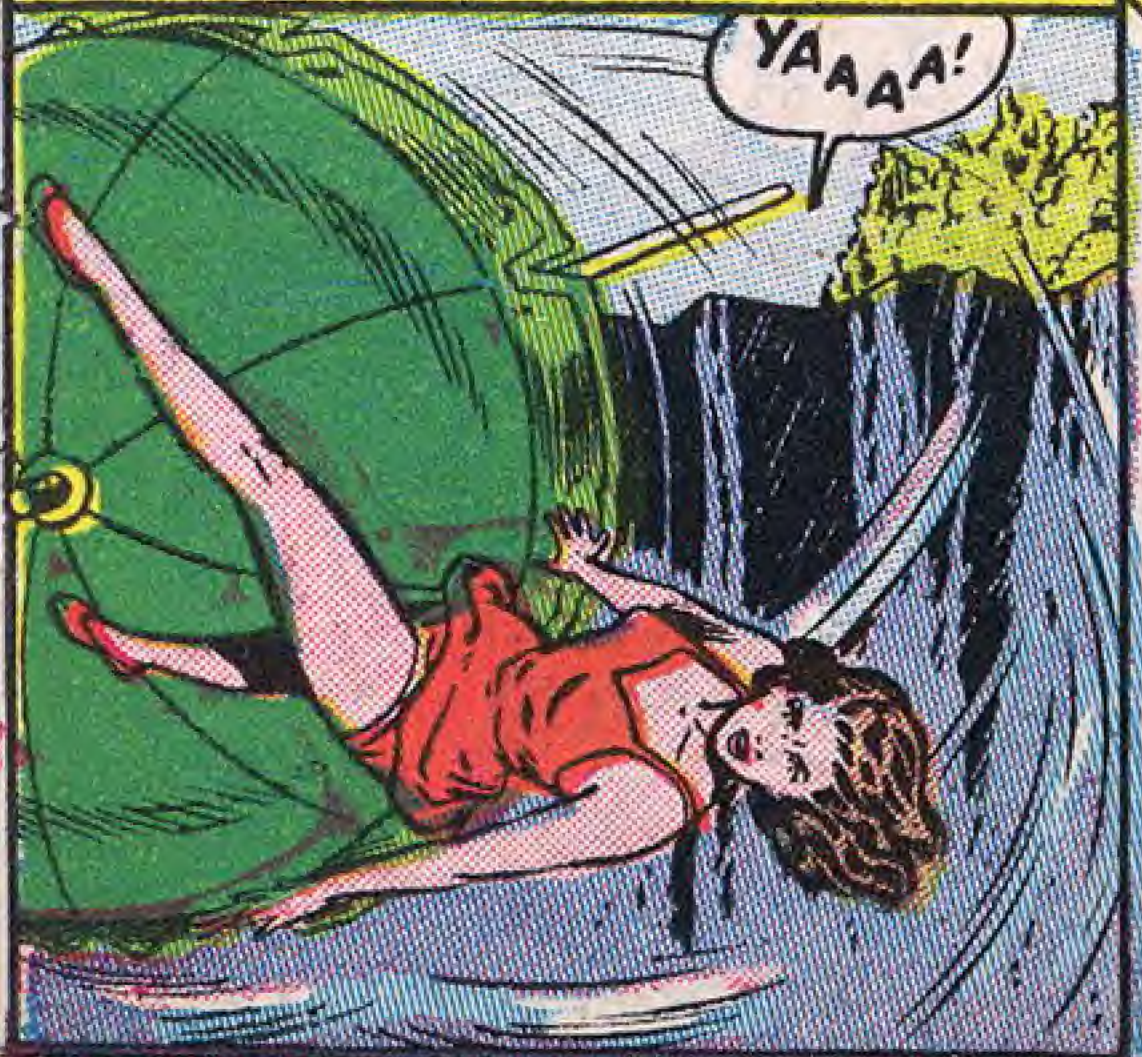
"...THEN IT HAPPENED! THE UMBRELLA WAS TORN FROM THE GROUND, AND BLOWN STRAIGHT AT MY WIFE..."

EMMA! LOOK OUT!



"...I WAS TOO LATE TO SAVE HER! THE UMBRELLA SLAMMED INTO MY WIFE! BOTH WENT OVER THE CLIFF!"

YAAA!



HMM! AND YOU SAY THIS IS THE SPOT FROM WHICH THE WIND DISLODGED THE UMBRELLA? HMMM!



THAT WAS A GOOD STORY, FORBES... BUT ONLY A STORY! I'M HOLDING YOU ON SUSPICION OF MURDER!



CAN YOU SPOT THE FLAW IN FORBES' STORY? SOLUTION ON NEXT PAGE!

M is for MURDER

ED MARKO was brought to the hospital at midnight, the victim of a severe heart attack and the newspapers blared the story in the early edition. Marko was probably the most notorious racketeer in the city, and his illness set many a prospective gang leader on his ear. Who would take over Marko's empire? The visitors started trying to get into the hospital as soon as the word got out and a special detail of police was assigned to keep the hospital free of interlopers, or more particularly, the boys who might want to speed Ed Marko along the way . . . the way out! He had been in hiding for six months, after several attempts had been made on his life. And now he was flushed out in the open, fair game for the first clever man to come along.

There was a clever man on the hospital staff, a senior interne. Johnny Novak was a good doctor, but he had an odd twist in his mind. Not for him the honor, and possible glory of a fine future in the medical profession. He didn't want to wait for fame and fortune. Johnny had ambition, one long-lived burning desire, money! "With money," he often mused, "comes power, fame, everything life has to offer." So with the arrival of Ed Marko in the hospital, little wheels started going around in Johnny's head.

Marko had undergone heart surgery and was resting comfortably. His day nurse was Marie West. Marie was a pretty blonde who was carrying a torch for Dr. Novak. Johnny had dated her steadily for six months, and then blithely drifted off to the wife of a wealthy patient. He broke that off before the husband was discharged from the hospital but Marie didn't hold out much hope for winning Johnny back. She knew he wasn't any good where women were concerned, but like the songs go, she loved him in spite of it all. Marie was in for a surprise, however, because on the second day after Ed Marko's operation, Johnny came in to see her. He said he was doing a routine check on the patients on that floor and wanted to take a little extra time to see Marie. "It's been a long time, baby," he crooned, pulling her into his arms as the patient slept blissfully on. "I made a mistake," he continued, "how about giving me another chance." Marie brushed away the doubts that crept into her mind. She accepted his kiss and returned it. Everything was okay again.

Johnny saw her every evening he was free during the next week. He got so he'd drop in to see Ed Marko, chatting with him in a friendly fashion and giving Marie a chance to run down to the kitchen for a snack. One day while she was gone, he got down to business, Marko's business. "Too bad, Mr. Marko, that the police won't let you have any visitors. A deal like that must hamper a man of your business interests," he said slowly. Ed brightened perceptibly, but he was cagey. "As a matter of fact, Doctor, you're right. I haven't been able to make contact and with a man like me, contacts are important." Johnny started talking turkey immediately. He would carry any message or do any outside job Marko needed done, for a sizeable amount of cash, of course. An interne's income was skimpy as Mr. Marko must know and dating a girl like Marie could run into money. Marko laughed and agreed. He had Johnny write out messages to three of his henchmen and for a hundred dollars each, Johnny delivered them. During the weeks that followed, he

had access to Marko's private office, carrying the keys he had secured from Marko's belongings stored in the locked hospital closet. He went over the files carefully, taking notes. He took the names of the racketeer's agents in other parts of the country. In short, he put Marko's empire in his mind and his ambition finally seemed within his grasp.

Marie West was in seventh heaven, seeing Johnny almost constantly, though he was taking a few more evenings to run about for Mr. Marko than she thought necessary. But she enjoyed the night-clubs he was taking her to and the little trinkets he had started giving her. One evening when she was scheduled to go off duty, Johnny came in, his eyes bright with excitement. "Go ahead and get ready to leave, honey," he said. "I'll give Ed his hypo and save you a little time." Marie protested, but under Johnny's insistence, she left. Ed smiled up at the doctor. "Kind of anxious to get rid of your girlfriend, weren't you, Doc?" he queried. "Is there anything you want to report to me?" Johnny said no, he just wanted Marie to get ready, they had a big night planned. As he talked, Johnny came towards the bed. He bared Ed's arm and inserted the hypodermic needle, he drew it slowly back and watched the empty tube as he pushed the syringe in towards the arm. Then he leaned over close to Ed and whispered. "Ed, you're about to die." The sick man gasped in terror. "I've just inserted air into your arteries. It's a matter of seconds. But I wanted you to know who your successor was going to be. Meet Johnny Novak, the new crime king!" Johnny laughed soundlessly. Ed Marko gave a violent twist of protest as he died. Johnny didn't hear the door of the hospital room close almost without sound.

He felt like a million bucks. "And I'm worth it," he thought to himself. He went out to meet Marie. He had to keep her clear of the room, tell her the night nurse had come on. He had no doubts about convincing Marie. She was a girl in love, and Johnny Novak had complete confidence in himself.

He met Marie on time. She seemed quiet, but he gathered that she was tired after a long day. But she wasn't tired. Marie was frightened, until the two detectives met them just outside the hospital, where they felt sure Johnny couldn't make a break for it. Johnny turned unbelieving eyes on his girl. "You couldn't have done this, Marie," he said incredulously. "You love me." "I did love you, Johnny," she replied sadly, "until I stood at that hospital door and saw you commit murder." The papers had another big story. Ed Marko's murder would have gone undetected as the natural aftermath of serious heart surgery except for the little nurse whose love for the murderer drove her back to the hospital room to tell him once more that she loved him.

PICT-O-CRIME SOLUTION

The umbrella-stake hole was smooth and round—but if a strong wind had whipped the umbrella back and forth, then the hole would be very irregular and enlarged due to the pressure! Obviously there was no wind! Forbes had himself lifted the umbrella from the hole and thrown it and his wife over the cliff!

BOMB SCARE!



YOU'RE POLICE OFFICER JAMES BLAINE! YOUR BEAT IS THE GREAT WHITE WAY-- WHERE ANYTHING POPS! THAT IS, ANYTHING! IT'S A HOT NIGHT AND TONY GRECO, THE SOFT DRINK PROPRIETOR, IS KINDLY LETTING YOU TANK UP ON A LEMONADE, WHEN ...



POLICE COMICS

I WAS AFRAID YOU'D THINK I WAS JOKING! BUT I'M **NOT**! ERNEST HAS AN ATOM BOMB -- A SMALL ONE -- BUT JUST AS EFFECTIVE AS THE ENORMOUS ONES!

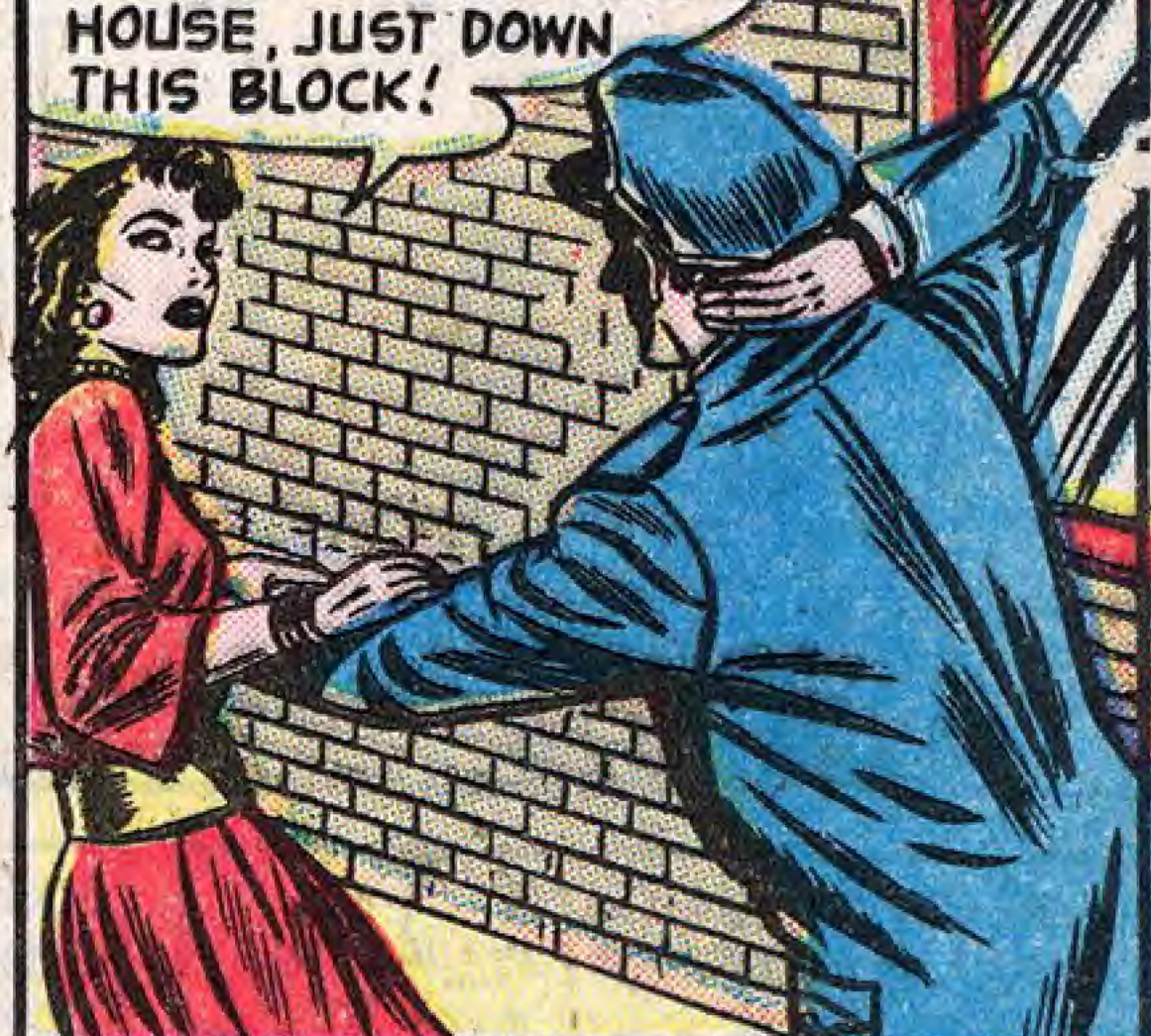
NOW, SISTER.. NOBODY'S GOT ANY ATOM BOMBS BUT UNCLE SAM! AND SAMMY KEEPS THEM IN COLD STORAGE IN VERY SAFE PLACES, NOT IN ANYBODY'S SUITCASES!

BUT ERNEST **ISN'T ANYBODY**! HE'S AN ATOMIC SCIENTIST! HE HELPED BUILD THE FIRST ONE! HE'S BEEN WORKING ON A-BOMBS FOR 8 YEARS! HE'S SMUGGLED ONE OUT I TELL YOU!

SISTER, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT? I MEAN THIS HOT WEATHER.. IT **DOES** THINGS TO PEOPLE!

SEE FOR YOURSELF! ERNEST CAME UP YES-TERDAY FROM THAT NEW ATOM PLANT IN THE SOUTH! I COULD SEE RIGHT AWAY HE WASN'T NORMAL! PLEASE -- IT'S THE CORBIN ROOMING HOUSE, JUST DOWN THIS BLOCK!

OKAY, KID! WE'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THIS MAD SCIENTIST!



YOU DECIDE TO HUMOR THE JANE, MAKING A MENTAL NOTE TO PHONE THE PSYCHO-WARD. AT YOUR FIRST OPPORTUNITY! THIS KID IS ONE FOR THE BUTTERFLY NETS! YOU CLIMB THREE FLIGHTS OF STEPS WHILE SHE BUBBLES ON HOW HIS BRILLIANCE DESTROYED ERNEST --

HE HATED HIS WORK! HE HATED A WORLD WHICH WAS OUT TO DESTROY ITSELF! FINALLY, HIS BRAIN MUST HAVE SNAPPED! OFFICER-- H-HE DOESN'T ANSWER!

KEEP KNOCKING! MAYBE HE'S BUSY FIGURING OUT WHERE HE'LL PLANT THE BOMB!



YOU WERE STRICTLY HUMORING HER, SEE? YOU EVEN GOT DOWN TO PEEK THROUGH THE KEYHOLE!

SORRY, SISTER! I DON'T SEE ANY-BODY IN THE ROOM!

YOU WON'T SEE **ERNEST!** ANYTHING IN A SECOND!



BULLETS HAVE A WAY OF MAKING IMPRESSIONS! AND THOSE WHO FIRE THEM, EVEN MORE SO! YOU TURN VERY QUICKLY --

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, COPPER! --OR MY SISTER GETS IT! WHEN SHE WENT OUT FOR A PACK OF CIGARETTES I HAD AN IDEA SHE WAS GOING TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS!

LOOK, PAL! DON'T GO OFF THE DEEP END! I'M NOT AGAINST YOU! I'M HERE TO HELP YOU!



YOU SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE KICKING YOURSELF! THE GIRL WAS RIGHT! ONE LOOK AT THE GUY'S MAD EYES AND YOU KNEW YOU WEREN'T DEALING WITH A RATIONAL BEING!

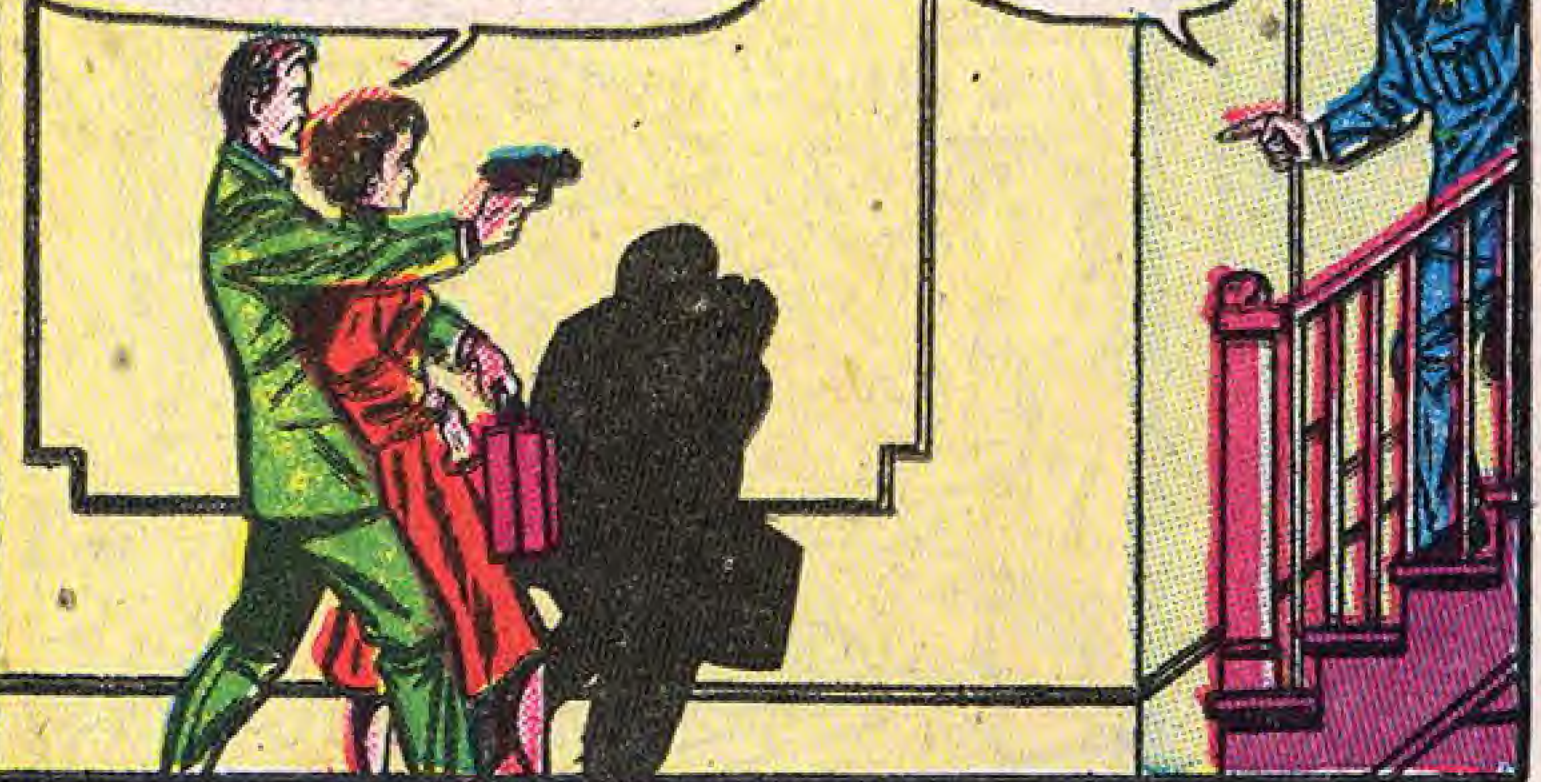
YOU AREN'T KIDDING ME, COPPER! YOU'RE HERE TO STOP ME! BUT **NOBODY'S** GOING TO STOP ME! I'M GOING TO BLOW THIS TOWN SKY-HIGH!

BUT WHY? WHAT GRUDGE HAVE YOU GOT AGAINST NEW YORK? WHAT HARM HAVE WE DONE YOU?



I'LL TELL YOU WHAT HARM! YOU'VE COMMITTED THE CRIME OF STUPIDITY! SAME FOR THE PEOPLE OF RUSSIA! WHEN I GET THROUGH BLOWING THIS TOWN TO BITS, I'M GOING TO DO THE SAME THING IN MOSCOW!

SO GIVE MOSCOW THE BREAK! BLOW UP MOSCOW FIRST! SAVE NEW YORK FOR LAST! THINK OF THE FUN YOU'LL HAVE!



SHUT UP! YOU'RE MAKING FUN OF ME! YOU'RE TREATING ME LIKE AN IDIOT! -- DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!

I DIDN'T MEAN TO HURT YOUR FEELINGS, PAL -- JUST A SUGGESTION! WHY DON'T WE TALK THIS THING OVER? IF YOU CONVINCE ME YOU'RE RIGHT, I'LL LET YOU DO WHATEVER YOU PLEASE!



I'VE ALREADY TALKED IT OVER WITH MYSELF! I'LL END THIS ARMS RACE WITH TWO STROKES! ONE BIG BLOW HERE ONE IN MOSCOW! THE WORLD WILL REALIZE THE TERROR THAT AWAITS THEM! GET AWAY FROM ME!

OH! H!



DON'T DRAW YOUR GUN, COPPER! I DON'T NEED A SHIELD! TRY TO STOP ME AND I'LL BLOW US TO KINGDOM COME WITH ONE SHOT THROUGH THIS SUITCASE!

HE MEANS IT! DON'T COME NEAR HIM!



IF YOU'D HAD ANY DOUBTS BEFORE OF AN A-BOMB IN THE SQUIRREL MEAT'S SUITCASE, YOU LOSE THEM NOW! HE'D TOSSED HIS SHIELD AWAY TOO CONTEMPTUOUSLY!

DON'T FOLLOW ME, YOU HEAR! FOLLOW ME AND I'LL KILL YOU! FOLLOW ME AND I WON'T WAIT TO PLANT THE BOMB! I'LL TOUCH IT OFF INSTANTLY!

STAND BACK, SISTER! HE'S NUTTIER THAN A FRUIT CAKE! HE'LL DO ANYTHING!



YOU WAIT TILL THE FRUIT CAKE IS OUT THE DOOR! THEN YOU PLUNGE AFTER HIM! YOU SEE HIM GET INTO A CAB DOWN THE BLOCK!

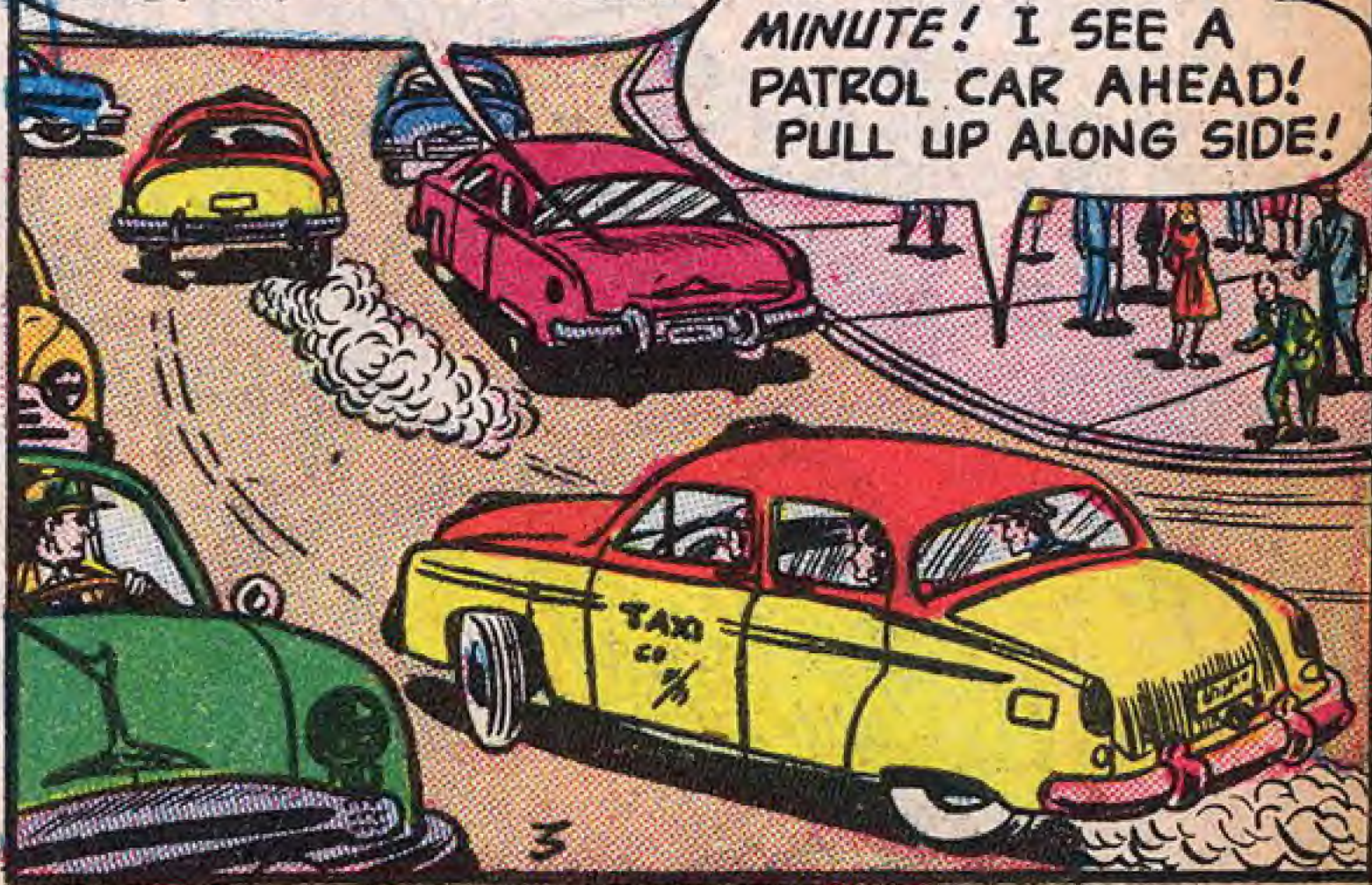
CAN'T WE SEND OUT AN ALARM? HE MIGHT GO ANYWHERE!

THAT'S THE DANGER! BY THE TIME I GIVE THE ALARM, HE'LL HAVE DISAPPEARED! NO -- I'VE GOT TO KEEP ON HIS TAIL! -- TAXI!



IF YOU ASK ME, OFFICER, THE OTHER CAB'S HEADED FOR GRAND CENTRAL STATION! HE'S TURNIN' EAST ON 44TH STREET!

YOU'RE RIGHT! GRAND CENTRAL STATION WOULD ATTRACT THIS SCREWLOOSE LIKE A MAGNET! WAIT A MINUTE! I SEE A PATROL CAR AHEAD! PULL UP ALONG SIDE!



POLICE COMICS

YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HOW THE PROWL CAR BOYS WOULD TAKE IT! WITH OPEN MOUTHS AND CLOSED MINDS!

YOU'RE KIDDING, BLAINE! SUCH THINGS ONLY HAPPEN IN THE MOVIES!

MOVIES, HE SAYS! DO YOU THINK I'M IN THIS CAB FOR MY HEALTH?! FOLLOW ME TO THE STATION BEFORE WE ALL LAND ON A CLOUD BANK! AND I'M NOT KIDDING!

YOU GET TO THE STATION A HALF MINUTE AFTER THE CAB YOU ARE FOLLOWING! IN A CHASE LIKE THIS EVEN A SECOND'S DELAY CAN BE FATAL!

WAIT FOR THE PROWL COPS! GIVE THEM A DESCRIPTION! THEY DON'T KNOW WHO TO LOOK FOR! WHICH WAY DID THIS GUY HEAD? QUICK!

HE JUST WENT INSIDE, THAT'S ALL! HE'S SOMEWHERE INSIDE!

DO YOU SEE HIM, BLAINE?

NO! WE'D BETTER SPLIT UP! SISTER, YOU COME WITH ME!

YOU LOOK AROUND TILL YOUR HEAD FEELS LIKE IT'S SPINNING OFF! BUT ALL YOU SEE IS A SEA OF FACES! A THOUSAND FACES... AND NOT ONE THE ONE YOU'RE AFTER!

MAYBE HE JUST DUCKED IN HERE! NUTS ARE CUNNING! HE MIGHT HAVE FIGURED HE'D THROW US OFF THE TRAIL! MAYBE HE'S ON THE STREET NOW!

NO! THERE HE IS! SEE? THERE HE IS HEADING UP THE STEPS!

YOU TAKE ONE LOOK AT THE NUT AND YOUR HEART STOPS BEATING! THE SUITCASE IS GONE!

GET DOWN! EVERYBODY! TAKE COVER! -- THAT MAN IS DANGEROUS!

SO YOU FOLLOWED ME HERE! YOU'LL PAY FOR IT WITH YOUR LIFE!

BANG

YOU HAVEN'T GOT YOUR SUITCASE, PAL! NOW YOU DON'T SCARE ME!

STAY AWAY! STAY AWAY!

BANG BANG

VII-I-I! THAT'S WHERE THE SHOTS CAME FROM! LOOK! BLAINE'S CORNERED HIM!

CLICK CLICK

YOU HAVE THE SAP UNDER CONTROL... BUT YOUR WORRIES ONLY BEGIN! YOU HAVE TO FIND OUT WHERE THE SUITCASE IS --

YOU'LL NEVER FIND IT! ANOTHER THING! I'M NOT GOING TO BLOW UP MOSCOW! I ONLY HAVE ONE BOMB! AND IT'S GOING OFF NOW!

WHERE'D YOU PUT IT! SPEAK BEFORE I WRING YOUR HEAD OFF! SPEAK!

POLICE COMICS

YOU SUDDENLY HEAR A CLICKING SOUND! YOU LOOK DOWN! YOU SEE SOMETHING GLEAMING ON THE FLOOR!

A KEY! A KEY TO A SUBWAY LOCKER!

THAT'S IT! HE PUT THE SUITCASE IN A LOCKER!

IT'S TOO LATE! THE BOMB GOES OFF IN FIVE MINUTES! YOU'LL NEVER STOP IT NOW!

YOU LEAVE THE NUT TO LAUGH HIMSELF INTO ETERNITY -- IN THE ARMS OF A COUPLE OF SUBWAY GUARDS WHILE YOU GO LOCKER HUNTING!

IT'S HERE ALL RIGHT! WHAT'LL WE DO, BLAINE? YOU HEARD THE NUT! IT'S SET TO BLOW IN FIVE MINUTES!

NO SENSE MONKEYING WITH IT! WE WOULDN'T KNOW HOW TO STOP IT ANYWAY! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO! HEAD FOR THE EAST RIVER!

SO YOU BREAK ALL SPEED RECORDS DASHING FOR THE STREET LEVEL!

IF WE CAN REACH THE RIVER IN TIME, WE CAN DROP IT IN! I HEARD AN UNDER-WATER EXPLOSION CAUSES LESS DAMAGE!

KENDALL, YOU STAY HERE! YOU GOT A WIFE AND KIDS! PHONE HEADQUARTERS! LET 'EM SOUND AN ALARM!

SOMEDAY IF YOU WANT EXCITEMENT, SIT IN A SCREAMING PROWL CAR WHIZZING NINETY MILES AN HOUR THROUGH NEW YORK TRAFFIC WITH A TICKING A-BOMB IN YOUR LAP.

THERE'S ONLY A MINUTE LEFT... HURRY!

I'M DOING WHAT I CAN, BLAINE! SHE WON'T GO ANY FASTER!

SUDDENLY YOU HIT THE PIER BOARDS! YOU PRACTICALLY LEAP OUT THE CAR WINDOW!

IT'S NO GOOD, BLAINE! WE'RE TOO LATE! SHE'S GOING TO BLOW! LOOK OUT! --

GASP!

SPLASH

YOU DOUSE YOURSELF AND THE SUITCASE-- AND NOTHING HAPPENS! FIVE MINUTES PASS AND NOTHING HAPPENS! TEN MINUTES AFTER THAT THE BOMB SQUAD SHOWS UP!

THERE IT IS!

OKAY! STAND BACK!

DON'T BOTHER! IF THIS IS THE REAL MCCOY, THEY'LL BE PICKING UP THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD IN PENSACOLA! JUST PRAY!

WELL, MAYBE THE PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED! MAYBE SOMEBODY WAS LOOKING OUT FOR THE BIG TOWN TO BEGIN WITH! BECAUSE WHAT THE BOYS FIND IS A MESS OF JUNK THAT CAN NEVER BE A BOMB!

HE WAS CRACKED AS LIBERTY BELL! IN HIS MIND IT WAS THE MOST POWERFUL BOMB EVER INVENTED! BUT IF HE HADN'T BEEN CRAZY...

IF IT'S A MIGHTY BEAUTIFUL CITY! I'D HATE FOR NUTS TO TEAR DOWN WHAT GENIUSES BUILT UP! BESIDES, TONY GRECO STILL OWES ME A DRINK ...

AND SPEAKING OF OWING, NEW YORK OWES PATROLMAN BLAINE PLENTY -- EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ONLY A BOMB SCARE!

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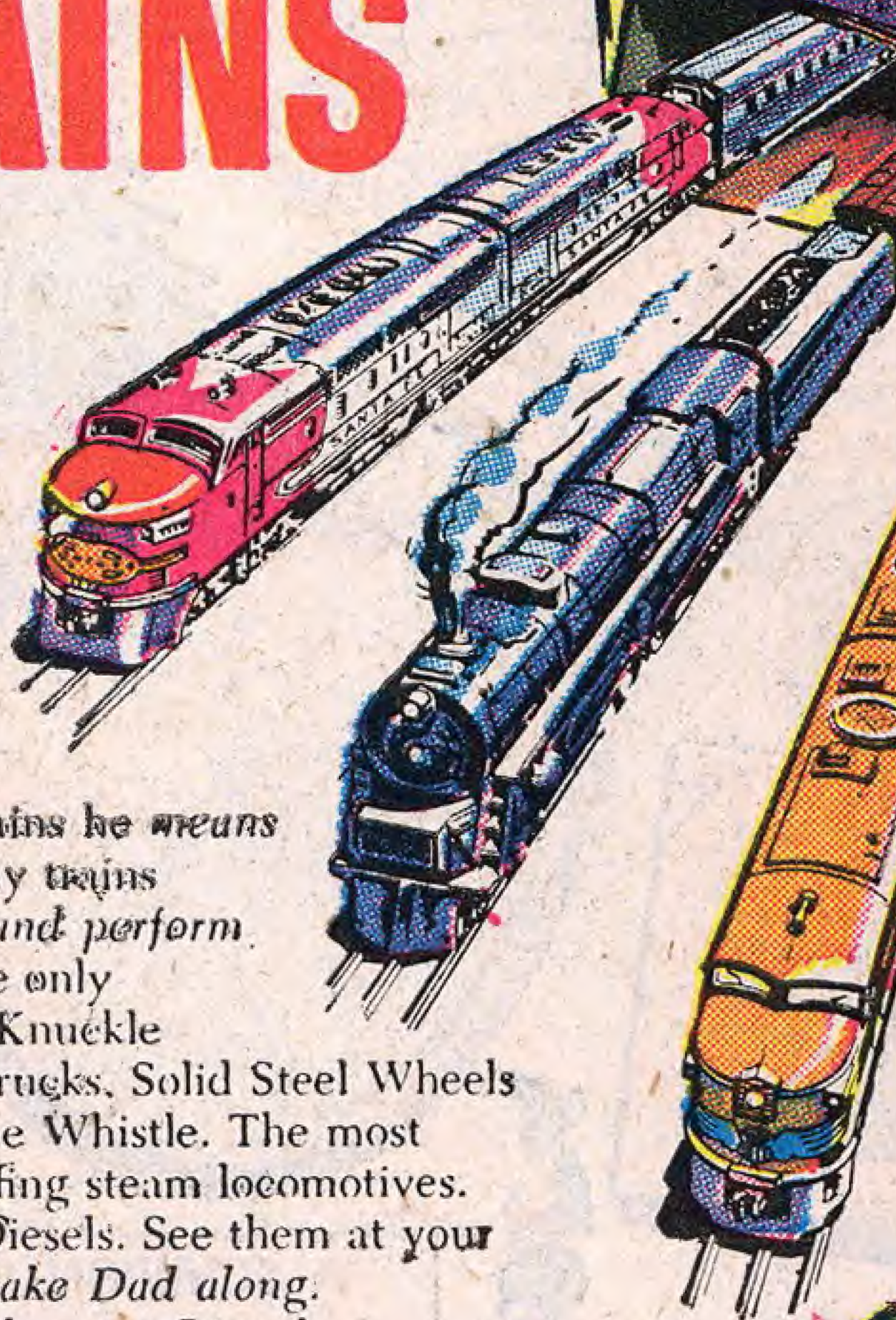
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SHE CRIES!



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